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CHRISTMAS P.76**

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NEWS & NOTES

Horn GOP favorite

While the state Democratic party has held fairly steady in picking its chairman, with two chairmen in the past 12 years, the state GOP has hardly been drama free. Fergus Cullen held the post for two years, and was succeeded by former governor John Sununu following the disastrous 2008 elections for Republicans. Sununu walked away in 2010 and was succeeded by tea party activist Jack Kimball, whose tenure ended amid controversy over his handling of the party less than a year after he took office. Wayne MacDonald took over for Kimball, who ultimately resigned, and presided over what turned out to be another disastrous election last month.

Well, MacDonald isn't seeking re-election to the post, and neither is current Vice Chairman Cliff Hurst, who had been considering running. Jennifer Horn, the two-time failed congressional candidate, is the establishment favorite, with U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte, Senate President Peter Bragdon, House Speaker William O'Brien and Reps. Charlie Bass and Frank Guinta throwing their support behind Horn.

But Kimball doesn't like that, despite that Horn was his transition chairman when he took over the party. (According to reports, there may be some animosity between Kimball and Horn because Horn ultimately urged Kimball to resign as chairman.)

Kimball wrote an email to supporters, criticizing GOP leadership for forcing Hurst out of the race: "The NHGOP is now being run like a satellite of the Russian Federation. Hell, why bother having a convention at all?"

Conservative activist Andrew Hemingway has decided to run for state GOP chairman, officially throwing his hat into the ring earlier this week.

The state GOP convention is set for Jan. 26 in Bedford.

MacDonald praised

Wayne MacDonald took over the state GOP at a difficult time, following Jack Kimball's resignation last year. He announced last week he would not seek a full term as chairman.

"I would like to offer my wholehearted support for Wayne



Former state GOP chairman Jack Kimball (above right) voiced his displeasure last week over Jennifer Horn's (above left) candidacy for GOP chairman.



to resign before new representatives are sworn in as well. Thompson moved to Florida.

According to reports, Thompson didn't campaign for the position after initially filing to run. Since he filed, there was no way for him to remove his name from the ballot, reports indicated.

MacDonald for his willingness to step up under very difficult circumstances and provide leadership for the Party," said House Speaker William O'Brien, R-Mont Vernon, in a statement. "His steady hand allowed the state committee to move forward over the past year and have a smooth First In The Nation primary and to implement the national victory efforts."

Shaheen supports SBA

At a Senate Small Business Committee hearing last week, U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen outlined legislative priorities designed to grow small businesses, while also pushing for the reauthorization of the Small Business Administration's real estate financing program. Shaheen also questioned experts on programs that would stimulate job creation.

The hearing featured a panel of small business experts. Shaheen highlighted the fact that lack of credit continues to be a concern for small businesses. One concrete, no-cost step she offered to help solve this problem would be the reauthorization of SBA's 504 refinancing program, which helped more than 2,700 businesses nationwide access more than \$2.5 billion in credit before it expired this September, according to a press release from Shaheen's office.

Democrats down two

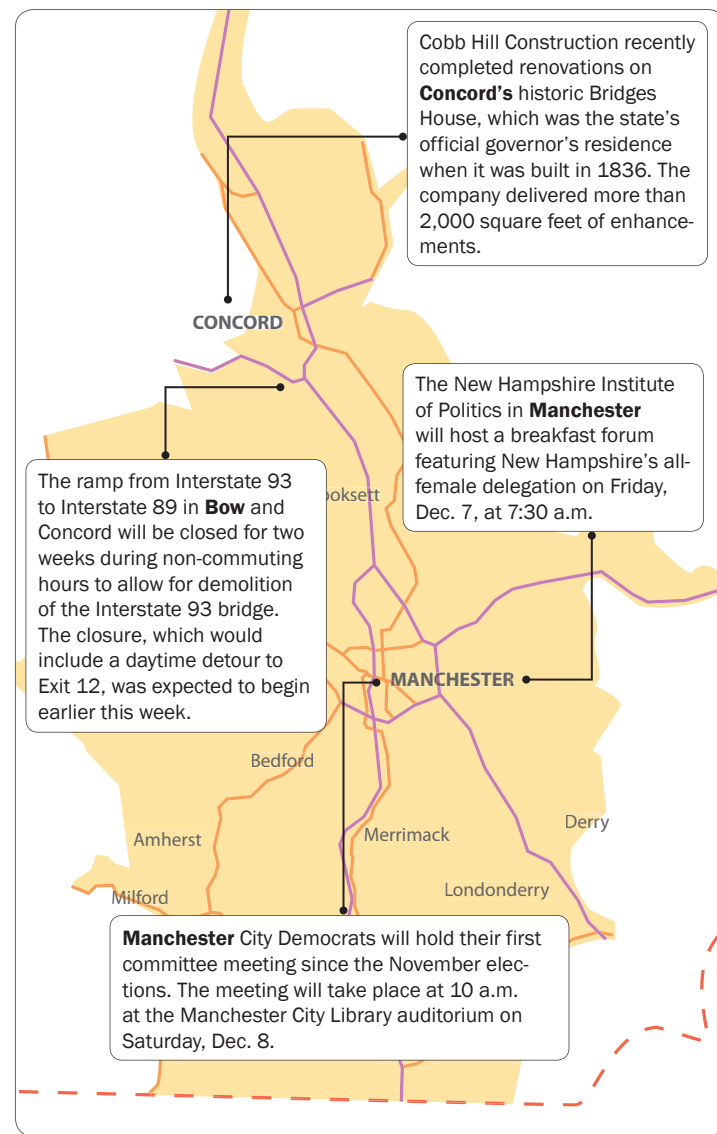
Stacie Laughton, a newly elected state representative from Nashua, made headlines last week as she was forced to resign following a barrage of criticism stemming from a felony conviction of credit card fraud. But Democrats lost another seat off their majority last week, with Robert Thompson set

Pope steps down

Chris Pope, director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in New Hampshire, announced last week he will step down from his post in January. Pope was appointed to the position in August 2006 by Gov. John Lynch. The state experienced 12 federally declared disasters during Pope's tenure, according to a state press release. "Chris is always the calm in the center of the storm, leaning forward to ensure New Hampshire is prepared and our citizens protected," Lynch said in a statement. Pope will spend the next month working to ensure a smooth transition of the state emergency response function to Gov.-elect Maggie Hassan's administration, the release said.

Liquor news via phone

The state Liquor Commission launched a mobile website offering customers access to information on LiquorandWineOutlets.com via smartphones. The launch is part of an upgrade to the Commission's communication efforts, joining a mix of multiple channels in use to engage a customer base with diverse communication,



according to a Commission press release. "Holiday shopping brings an increase in traffic to our website, and we are now poised to provide product info, store info and great savings to the palms of our customers' hands," said New Hampshire Liquor Commission Chairman Joseph Mollica in the release. Smartphones and tablets accounted for more than 10 percent of Web browsing in October, compared to 7.2 percent earlier this year, the release said.

Cilley joins Shea-Porter

Jackie Cilley couldn't beat Gov.-elect Maggie Hassan in the Democratic primary earlier this fall, but she found a position with Congresswoman-elect Carol Shea-Porter's team. Cilley will serve as district director for Shea-Porter. Cilley served in the state House of Representatives from 2004 to 2006 and served in the state Senate from 2006 to 2010. Cilley is a Berlin native and has lived in Barrington for more than 30 years. 🐟

BEST WEEK

SEN. JEANNE SHAHEEN

Former senator John Sununu has yet to indicate whether he's even considering running against Shaheen a third time in 2014, but he would certainly be at the top of the GOP's wish list. So it was good news for Shaheen when Public Policy Polling released a poll last week that had Shaheen leading Sununu by 11 points. Shaheen lost to Sununu in 2002 and then beat him in 2008.

WORST WEEK

STACIE LAUGHTON

Laughton was the first transgender person to be elected to state office in New Hampshire, but reports last week revealed Laughton is a felon, having been convicted of credit card fraud and having served four months in prison. While it remained at least somewhat unclear whether the Nashua resident, who was elected to the state House of Representatives last month, could legally hold the seat, she ultimately decided to resign.



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Driving down fatalities

State embarks on collaborative effort to reduce roadway deaths

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

Traveling at average highway speeds, vehicles cover about 50 feet every second. Officials would like drivers to remember that when they peek down at their cell phone, reach into the back seat to hand a child a toy, or take their eyes off the road to change the radio station.

"That's a lot of distance when you're looking down," said Col. Robert Quinn, director of the Division of State Police.

People are in their cars. They're warm and comfortable. They think they're safe. The cell phone is there and they want to respond to a text or an email, said Christopher Clement, commissioner of the state Department of Transportation.

"They don't realize that split second could be a matter of life and death," Clement said.

"Everybody knows that if you put your hand on a hot stove, you get burned," Quinn added. "I don't think people realize just how dangerous distracted driving is, and just how fast their car is going."

Distracted driving is just one piece of the Driving Toward Zero puzzle. The program, which is centered on reducing the state's driving fatalities to zero, is a multi-agency effort with nine areas of emphasis. The initiative, which is a national program taking place in all 50 states, kicked off in New Hampshire this past July.

Clement said the program began as a national strategy to address the number of roadway fatalities. Nationally, 35,000 to 40,000 people die each year in motor vehicle accidents on the country's roadways. So far this year, 100 people have died in driving-related accidents in New Hampshire.

"We really feel that ... with education and with outreach and with personal efforts, that we can really affect change in a positive way with the number of people who are either injured or killed every year," Clement said. "I'm very excited about the program. I'm very passionate about the program."

84
FATAL
ACCIDENTS in
NH 2011

14
caused by
DRIVING
DISTRACTED

25
caused by
DRUG &
ALCOHOL
USE

8
caused by
SPEEDING

Information from the State Department of Safety

It's not an issue officials expect to solve overnight. The goal is to reduce roadway deaths by 50 percent by 2030.

"Each year we're looking at how many deaths we have," Clement said.

The DOT and the State Police aren't doing this alone. The Driving Toward Zero Coalition includes more than 20 member agencies and organizations, private and public, including the state Liquor Commission, AAA, Manchester Community College, Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire and the Federal Highway Administration.

Officials looked at data to determine where accidents were



Under the state's Driving Toward Zero initiative, the goal is to reduce the number of roadway fatalities by 50 percent by 2030. Courtesy photo.

occurring and why they were occurring. That analysis resulted in nine critical emphasis areas: impaired driving, distracted driving, speeding, vehicle occupant protection, adolescent drivers, older drivers, crash locations, motorcycles and vulnerable roadway users and comprehensive safety data. Clement said it boils down to four key areas in New Hampshire that officials need to focus on: education, enforcement, emergency management and engineering.

In 2011, 30 percent of all fatal crashes were caused by impairment from alcohol and drugs and 17 percent were caused by distracted driving. In 2011, 16- and 17-year-olds represented 1.9 percent of all licensed drivers and were responsible for 5.7 percent of all crashes. Drivers ages 16 through 20 represented 6.4 percent of all drivers and were responsible for 14.9 percent of all crashes.

"We're on the right track," Quinn said. "There are many different factors and causes. It's not just one thing. It's not just speeding. It's not just distracted driving. It's not just driving while impaired. It's a combination of a whole lot of different factors. We got all the stakeholders together, and we're committed to doing everything we can to bring the number to zero."

Getting the word out

A number of the problems are known. People know impaired driving is risky, both in terms of the dangers it presents and also regarding legal consequences. People know texting while driving is a bad idea too, both because it's illegal in New Hampshire and because it forces people to take their eyes off the road, leaving them vulnerable. But people still do it. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, 16 percent of all drivers younger than age 20 who were involved in fatal crashes were driving distracted. According to ADCouncil.com, a texting driver is 23 times more likely to get in an accident than a non-texting driver.

Students are making a push to raise awareness as well.

"It's just word of mouth from the kids," said Katie Sullivan,

a teacher at Londonderry High School, who serves as the advisor for the school's Pay It Forward organization, which works to promote civic engagement and volunteerism. Pay It Forward students were trained to be Driving Toward Zero ambassadors.

"They've made it a point to stop distracted driving. When they're riding with friends, they'll remind those guys too. They'll tell them to pull over if they really need to take a call."

Sullivan said it's not always easy for kids to get the message across to other students, but she said they're very persistent.

"I think all the high school kids should go through the training," Sullivan said. "It's really eye-opening."

Officials will appropriate resources accordingly. If there is a high percentage of deaths due

65%

OF PEOPLE WHO DIED IN CAR
ACCIDENTS IN 2009 WERE
NOT USING SEAT BELTS



Information from nhdrivingtowardzero.com

NEWS & NOTES

to impaired driving, that's where resources will go. If distracted driving is a big issue, and people believe it is, that's where resources will go, Clement said. Clement said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood has made distracted driving a major issue.

"We're such a wired world," Clement said. "And people are always in a hurry."

"[Texting while driving is] just such a habit that we've created in our culture," Sullivan said. "Everybody knows it's wrong. It's a matter of taking that next step. ... We know it's wrong, but having the strength to actually put it down is a whole other thing."

It's not just about curtailing distracted driving or drunk driving, it's also about re-evaluating roadways. Are there places where accidents are tied to the design or geometry of the road? Maybe a certain section of a road needs a guard rail, or maybe drivers need more warning of an upcoming curve, officials said.

It's also about reinforcing the importance of wearing a seatbelt. It's about dealing with the reality that fatal crash rates increase for drivers once they reach 75. It's about getting people to slow down. On all of these fronts, it's about outreach and awareness, in ways that create change.

"It is a lot of behavioral issues," Quinn said. "You can't prevent a black moose from stepping into the road ... but you can prevent impairment ... or being distracted, tailgating. What we've tried to do is we've tried to get the public to do voluntary compliance."

Drivers have probably spotted signs — dynamic message boards — along highways in New Hampshire reminding motorists of the dangers of distracted driving, impaired driving or speeding. That's part of the Driving Toward Zero outreach campaign. Clement said officials are reaching out, meeting with college students and explaining why texting while driving is so dangerous.

"It's just a very, very important message," Clement said, adding it's not just about educating the younger generation.

Clement visited Pittsburgh for a conference a couple weeks ago with DOT officials from across the country. One state was utilizing a particularly effective commercial. Clement said the commercial features a mother taking all the necessary precautions in buckling her child into a car seat to make sure the child is properly protected. But as soon as the mother starts driving her SUV, she picks up her cell phone and begins texting. The next scene shows a car coming straight at the vehicle, while the mother has

her head down texting, Clement said.

Culture of safety

With the country in the thick of the holiday season, officials know there is an increased likelihood that people will be drinking alcohol. They have doubled efforts to make sure people get the message that it is not safe to drink and drive, or to use drugs and drive. Officials want people to realize the dangers of driving while impaired, but they also want to assure people that if they do drive while impaired, they will be caught, Clement said.

"If you're doing that, it will not be tolerated," Clement said.

The state has also pushed to promote its Move Over Law, which requires drivers to move one lane over on the highway from where emergency or maintenance vehicles are parked, or at least to slow down as they pass work zones and

emergency vehicles.

At a work site in Franconia Notch a driver was traveling 35 miles per hour when he crashed into a highway worker recently. The driver never looked up. The worker, somehow, survived and came out with minor injuries. All officials know is that the driver had his head down, Clement said.

"We are committed to this cause," Clement said.

Quinn said officials have done a good job getting the message out about the dangers of drunk driving, but he sees a growing problem: drugged driving.

"Everybody knows that drunk driving is dangerous and that you'll lose your license or wind up apprehended, but drugged driving, these drugs are prescribed by a doctor ... People just haven't married that with the fact that, 'Gee, if I take these pills, and I drive, I could end up prosecuted and I could lose my license.' That's an area where education is very important."

A new law will take effect Jan. 1 that will widen the standard for drugged driving beyond controlled substances. That means someone could run into trouble if they drive after taking a drug like Benadryl and having perhaps a single alcoholic beverage.

Quinn's requests are simple: Drive at a reasonable speed, pay attention and don't drive while impaired.

"Those are the things that are resulting in fatalities," Quinn said.

Whether it's a cell phone, the radio, food or programming a GPS, people are doing a lot of things other than just having both hands on the wheel, Quinn said.

"Driving is a very, very, very serious thing that people take for granted," Quinn said.

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NEWS & NOTES POLITICS

Still getting bluer

NH continues to see political demographics shift

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

The story has been written before — the one suggesting this once staunchly Republican state is becoming more and more Democratic. It's still happening. That much was evident in the most recent election, when Democrats fared well across the board. "That pattern has continued," said Andrew Smith, director of the University of New Hampshire Survey Center, "although it's not increasing with the pace it had been the previous 10 years."

The state's social demographics haven't changed much in the last decade. The state is still largely white and middle class. But older Republicans who have lived in the state for decades are dying or moving away. The people who are replacing them are far less likely to be Republicans, Smith said.

Looking at polling data — not voter registration — Smith said Democrats have a 3- to 5-percent plurality over the GOP in New Hampshire. This is the only state in the Northeast that isn't solidly Democratic.

The GOP has been in the minority nationally for some time. But the GOP had been able to turn out the vote at greater rates. That has changed in the last two presidential elections, Smith said.

In other parts of the country, the Republican party's membership correlated with higher levels of income and education, along with being married and owning a home — things that indicated success and stability. Those things also indicate who votes, Smith said. In New Hampshire, things like higher education and high income are at least as indicative of the Democratic party as of the GOP.

"Democrats are the economic and social elites. Democrats have higher levels of education," Smith said. "Democrats are more likely to have post-graduate degrees, some sort of advanced coursework. Those sorts of things correlate with high voter turnout. If Republicans don't have the turnout advantage, that means they've got to have more Republicans than Democrats."

Remember 2010?

No one is suggesting the Granite State is Massachusetts north. That much was clear in 2010, when the GOP took a three-to-one advantage in the state House of Representatives, a 19-5 advantage in the Senate and a 5-0 advantage on the Executive Council.

"Even though Republicans are a minority party in New Hampshire, they're still large enough to win elections, depending on the political climate," Smith said.

Smith said local GOP voters are quite



different from GOP voters in other parts of the country. Social conservatism is appealing to national Republicans, but decidedly not in New Hampshire. New Hampshire is one of the least religious

states in the country, but religion plays a big role in the national Republican party, Smith said. Republicans in New Hampshire focus on being fiscally conservative, keeping government small and keeping taxes down. The electorate in New Hampshire is turned off by issues surrounding gay marriage and abortion.

With the GOP in the majority for the last century in the Granite State, the party has acted the part. Smith wasn't sure GOP leadership in New Hampshire has grasped that the GOP is no longer the majority party, Smith said. "It's not just that Democrats will be competitive and occasionally win elections. Democrats are now the default winners in general elections," Smith said.

Get them while they're young

Nationally, with Democrats outnumbering Republicans, Smith said the GOP does not seem to have the turnout advantage it once did. President Barack Obama's campaign was lauded for its get-out-the-vote efforts in the past two presidential elections.

In Durham, Smith said, there were about 3,000 same-day registrations this year, primarily by college students. "That wasn't the Romney campaign getting kids to the polls," Smith said.

The GOP isn't dead nationally or in New Hampshire. GOP leaders probably do need to spend some time re-thinking their message and how they present that message, Smith said.

"One party figures out some new tricks or wrinkles, and then the other party says, 'Let's do that too,'" Smith said. "Each side adopts the techniques of the other. ... The next great innovation doesn't come from the side that's leading. It comes from the other side, because they have to work harder to overcome the deficit."

In the 1980s, it was Republicans who were garnering the youth vote with President Ronald Reagan's popularity.

"... once someone decides they're going to vote Republican or Democrat consistently, it's almost impossible to change their political attitudes," Smith said, adding the idea is to get to them while they're young and before they are "politically socialized."

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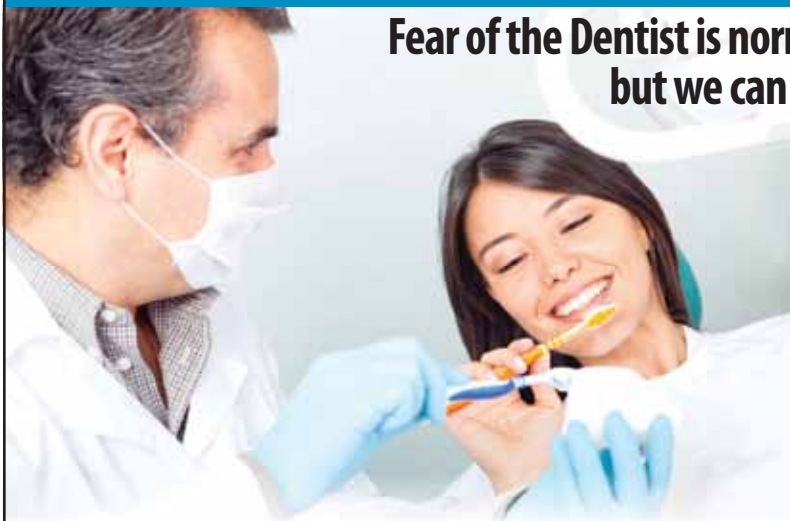
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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Ready for anything

Nashua company teaches civilians survival skills

With his Special Forces background, Joe Lopez opened Arrow Security & Training in Nashua in 2005, offering training for deploying soldiers as well as civilians. Lopez has expanded to offer firearms training and self-defense courses, including Krav Maga, and emergency preparedness seminars. Visit arrowsecuritytraining.com.

Q: *How did this company get started?*

I'm a former Special Forces guy, and I did a tour in Afghanistan. When I got back, I was getting all kinds of calls from regular Army guys going over there [looking for training]. [The company offers weapons-specific training and combat technique training, as well as Afghan and Iraqi role-playing and Islam and cultural awareness.] That's how I got started. We still train the military Before they're deployed, we train them up in things the Army or the Marines doesn't have the capability or the knowledge to do.

But you go beyond that realm?

That's our core business, working with the military. As everybody knows, [the country is] beyond broke [financially]. So we developed a civilian application in order to [keep the business] alive. We settled on emergency preparedness stuff as well. ... Since we're out in the woods so much as well, with training, it felt like a good fit.

How is that piece going, working with civilians?

It's catching on. A lot of people out there are reviewing their skill sets. They're starting to think more about security. They're thinking maybe they should do some self-defense training or handgun training, or maybe they should buy some items that might be useful if an emergency comes up. That's the basis of what we're thinking of. We started off with self-defense classes. That includes handgun training. We can take a person from zero knowledge to proficiency and safety in two straight days. We've linked up with the Salem Defense Center and we selected Krav Maga is a good discipline for self-defense, physical self defense. Part of the classes is just general awareness and self defense. A lot of it is what our state department [staff are] taught before they go overseas. Along with that, we're offering emergency preparedness.

Are people becoming more in tune with that type of thing?

I think so. The media had helped with that hype — the weathermen terrorists [laughing]. The economic conditions have not fixed themselves in the last five to six years. They've actually gotten worse. People are getting more worried about what's going to happen in the future. Another

aspect of this, gun sales in the last four years, gun and ammo sales have virtually doubled each year. So something has gotten everybody spooked out there.



Joe Lopez. Courtesy photo.

Are you seeing interest growing in the area of survival skills?

Yes. We do it for groups and for private individuals. It just depends on where we're at with military training. My guys are doing government contracts and so those classes need to be scheduled individually as needed. We do a lot of things, so we're pretty much on call. We do all skill sets. It's a matter of demand.

What about self-defense interest?

Yes. Especially women. We've had a lot of women lately, especially on the handgun stuff. A little secret: Women are probably the best students for handguns we run into.

Why is that?

I don't know [laughing]. They pay attention. They follow instructions. They're very good at safety. Those combinations of things, even though they might be a little more afraid of the weapon to begin with, they tend to become not afraid very quickly. As opposed to men, who think they already know how to shoot. Of course, they come in here, and they learn they don't.

Are you surprised by the amount of interest you've seen from women?

That we've seen more women than men, that's not a surprise. Because I thought that would be the group that needed the training the most. We weren't surprised at all. We were very surprised at how quickly and how good women are when they take the training.

Why is it a good idea for civilians to get this type of training?

These are lifelong skills. You may not need to use them. ... Especially kids and younger folks, their experience is not the same as previous generations. Most people used to do a little stint with hunting or something, but now they're playing video games. They're not outdoors anymore, so they miss lessons with kids. That's what we provide a lot of. — Jeff Mucciarone

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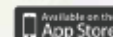


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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

NH gets major disaster declaration

New Hampshire stands to be the beneficiary of federal funding to help the state recover from last month's Hurricane Sandy last month. President Barack Obama approved a major disaster declaration last week. The disaster declaration will grant assistance to help communities in the five northern counties of New Hampshire recover from damage caused by flooding and extreme wind. All New Hampshire counties will be eligible for Hazard Mitigation funds, which will cover the costs to projects intended to reduce future disaster damage, according to a state press release.

QOL score: +1

Comment: "With people in New Hampshire still rebuilding after the storm, the declaration is a step in the right direction to make sure those in the Granite State have the resources and assistance they need," said U.S. Sens. Jeanne Shaheen and Kelly Ayotte in a joint statement.

Right-to-know requests costly

The state Attorney General's office spent almost 4,000 hours in the past two budget years on Right-to-Know public information requests, with associated costs totaling \$362,386, according to a Telegraph article. Attorney General Michael Delaney wasn't pushing to curtail public access to information, but he was looking to have a "serious discussion" about how to fund public information requests. Delaney suggested having more information available upfront as a way to reduce the need for public information requests, the article said.

QOL score: 0 (+1 for transparency, -1 for associated costs)

Comment: According to the article, the media makes responsible public information requests, but other individuals will make broad requests on a regular basis.

NH senior citizens livin' the good life

New Hampshire senior citizens enjoy top quality of life, according to a recent study noted in an article in the Union Leader. The study, titled "Health-Related Quality of Life in Older U.S. Adults: A Regional Comparison," analyzed nearly 80,000 adults at least 65 years or older from the pooled 1997-2010 National Health Interview Survey. New Hampshire ranked highest, with Nevada and Delaware close behind.

QOL score: +1

Comment: According to the article, New Hampshire's high quality of life score is likely due to population composition, access to health care and the opportunities for New Hampshire residents to stay active.

Holiday giving on the rise

People spent more for holiday gifts on Black Friday and Cyber Monday in the Granite State, according to an article in the Eagle Tribune, and people are giving more this year, too. The Upper Room, the Salvation Army, and Toys for Tots were all surveyed, and all three said that so far, this year has brought in more donations than in recent years past.

QOL score: +1

Comment: As of Nov. 27, the Salvation Army had raised \$50,000, as opposed to the \$40,000 to \$45,000 that had been raised last year at that time.

QOL score: 80

Net change: +3

QOL this week: 83

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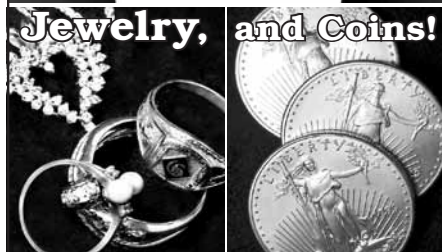
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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS

Sox rebuild off to a deliberate start



Baseball's winter meetings took place in Nashville this week, where **Ben Cherington** headed with a lot of money to spend and just 35-year-old back-up catcher **David Ross** and defensively challenged

journeyman **Jonny Gomes** to show for it. Thus begins the massive re-build needed for a team that had its worst record since 1966.

The big question is, can they get back into contention in 2013 after selling off a big part of the core last August, or is 2013 a bridge to better days in 2014 or 2015? To get back into it next year, they're going to need a blockbuster deal like Cincinnati made prior to the 1972 season that turned a power-rich but not quite good enough team into the Big Red Machine via an eight-player deal with Houston that netted Hall of Famer **Joe Morgan** and four other very useful players. That was a dandy, but where are you gonna get anything like that these days? Unless of course it's the one Cherington passed on and Toronto made with the Marlins that would've given him the all-world shortstop they needed and two solid starters for the rotation that didn't rotate very well last year.

It's a process with a lot of moving parts, so here's an inventory of the key elements and my humble opinion on them:

A Two-Year Fix: Maybe they'll come up with the blockbuster (or did already), but I think the smarter thing to do is to accept it's a two-year process and go about accumulating pieces that will play a role in competing for a playoff spot in 2014.

The Core: There's only two I build around: **Dustin Pedroia** and **Will Middlebrooks**. If I could get **Jacoby Ellsbury** in a four-year extension now, I'd keep him too, but with **Scott Boras** the agent and Tampa

Bay just giving **Evan Longoria** an outrageously stupid \$100 million extension that goes to 2021, that seems highly doubtful. As for the pitching staff, I'd trade anyone if the right deal came along.

Trading Vets For Potential: The big hoo-ha last week was should the Sox trade **Jon Lester** for vaunted Royals slugging prospect **Wil Myers**. Certainly that's risky, because there's a long list of guys who never lived up to their vaunted prospects status. But while the **Clints** — **Hartung** and **Hurdle** and others — never lived up to the billing, **Josh Hamilton**, **Joe Mauer** and **David Price** did. Plus outstanding players like **John Smoltz** and **Jeff Bagwell** came to their teams in swaps for veterans while they were in the low minors, so it really depends on your scouts.

Generally, I'd never trade a top pitcher for a hitter, but with Lester's performance and velocity declining, are we looking at another **Steve Avery**?

What To Do With Ellsbury: I love the guy, but if he's not signed soon, he's gone. So if this is a bridge year, trade him before he walks for nothing to get more inventory of tradeable assets for future deals, like one suggested by former Reds GM **Jim Bowden** on ESPN.com that would send him to the L.A. Angels of Anaheim and Earth for **Peter Bourjos** and slugging prospect **CJ Cron** now blocked by **Albert Pujols**. That gives them a centerfielder now and trade bait when **Jackie Bradley Jr.** is ready. And while prospects are risky, it could give them a possible 35-homer first baseman across the diamond from the 35-a-year potential of Middlebrooks at third.

Mike Napoli: I know it seems he's hit a homer about every other at bat in Fenway, but **Carl Crawford** once stole seven bases in one game off the Sox and owned them as a D-Ray, and we didn't see a lot of that once he got here, did we? I'm reluctant on Nap-

oli because history shows that with very few exceptions, almost every catcher starts to wear down in his early 30s even after switching positions. While power stays a little longer, the telltale sign is batting average. At 30 in 2012, Napoli hit 24 homers, but it was down from 30, in the same at-bats, while the average dropped to .221 from .324 and RBIs from 74 to 56. That's a sign it's started. Two years maybe, but beyond that is insane.

Free Agency: Beyond **Josh Hamilton**, who I'd give four years, and **Zach Grenke**, who I wouldn't, there isn't much star power out there. So I'd spend on info-structure or on guys to fill holes on one- and two-year deals, or who are tradeable for future deals like **Adam LaRoche**.

I'd then save the big money for when the right guy is there as **Dan Duquette** did for **Pedro** a year after **Roger Clemens** walked in 1996.

King Felix: I keep hearing about getting **Felix Hernandez** in some sort of deal, and I think one of those folks I heard it from was me. But now it's a different story, because given that he's won exactly no playoff games in his career, even he needs a team around him. So any deal for him would be a final piece to the rebuild that gets them over the top. Unless they'll do it even up for **Felix Doubront** then I say do that right now.

The Pitching: Since it's doubtful they can get a top-of-the-rotation starter, I'd try to buy a dominant bullpen rather than forcing the issue by splurging \$20 million on Grenke.

I'd rather be like 94-win Atlanta, who took games home from the sixth inning behind a bullpen that had five guys with ERAs under 2.00 and costing a combined \$6 million. Throw in \$9 million for 16-7 **Tim Hudson** and they're still \$5 million below what Grenke will cost.

THE SITE OF Great Events in Manchester

The Queen City Invitational Basketball Tourney Is Born In 1963

It was the final week of 1963 and the profound sadness throughout the nation after the assassination of **President John F. Kennedy** was entering its 5th week and the arrival of the **Beatles** to unleash a cultural revolution around the world was still 5 weeks away. In Manchester 8 teams were getting ready to play in the inaugural Queen City Invitational Basketball Tournament. The favorite was Bishop Bradley and they didn't disappoint the SRO crowd at St. Anselm's Stoughtonburgh Gymnasium by knocking out Dover with a big win in Round I behind a balanced attack led by their 6' 7" big **Dave Hardy** with 18. With Memorial and West getting knocked off by Nashua and Keene respectively, Central was the only other Manchester team to survive as **Ken LaPointe** with 18 points led them to a 55-44 win over Laconia and future Nashua head man **George Nocas**. That put the Green against Bradley in Round II where after an early tussle the Catholic's prevailed 46-32 and set them up to face Nashua who thumped Keene 54-41 behind 17 from **Bart Hersey**. Governor **John King** was among the 1392 folks on hand to see the final which Nashua led 35-34 at the half. But a suffocating full court press led to a pulverizing 45-23 second half run that turned the Panther lead into a 79-61 Bradley route led by **Jeff Grenert** and **Don Kasper** who had 23 and 17 respectively in the first of a soon to be 50 great events for Manchester.

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Sports Glossary

Clints – Hartung and Hurdle: Two of many spring phenoms who never lived up to the hype — **Clint Hartung** with the Giants in 1951 and **Clint Hurdle** with the 1970s Royals. They're joined by a long line of others, including **Gregg Jefferies** ('80s Mets), **Todd Van Poppel** ('90s A's) and **David Clyde**, who went straight from his high school graduation to winning his first start for the Rangers, kicking off a disappointing five-year career when he won 18 and lost 33.

Catchers Hitting the Wall: A few like **Carlton Fisk** and steroid-era guys **Mike Piazza** and **Jorge Posada** have been strong hitters into their mid-30s, but most haven't. That includes greats like **Yogi Berra**, **Johnny Bench**, **Lance Parish** and **Jason Varitek**, who hit that wall in 2006 at 33, when the average dropped from .281 to .233. He bounced back to .255 in '08, but after that it was .220, .209, .232, 221.

The Houston Reds Trade of 1971: An eight-player swap in the winter of 1972 that sent slugger **Lee May**, gritty second-sacker **Tommy Helms** and **Jimmy Stewart** — the utility man, not the actor — way down yonder to Texas and brought five players back to the other Queen City. It was the proverbial deal that helped both teams, after each won 79 games in '71. The Astros jumped to 84, while the Reds went to 95 and then 99 in '73 after getting Hall of Famer **Joe Morgan**; slick fielding centerfielder **Cesar Geronimo**; 19-game winner **Jack Billingham**; solid third baseman **Dennis Menke**; and **Fisk's** tango partner in the '75 series, **Ed Armbrister**.

Jimmy Stewart – the Actor: Legendary film star with a long list of must-see films, including *The Philadelphia Story*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Anatomy of a Murder*, *Flight of the Phoenix*, *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* and two goodies with **Alfred Hitchcock** — *Rear Window* and *Vertigo*. The one every voter should see is *Mr. Smith Goes To Washington*. help keep the pressure on the bums in DC as to how and whose interests they should be working for.

SPORTS DAVE LONG'S PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

UNH goes down hard in NCAA football playoffs

The Big Story: That's all she wrote for the 11th-ranked UNH football team after a 23-7 loss to Wofford in Round Two of the NCAA football tournament. The U was undone by a stingy defense that forced five fumbles, two interceptions and sacked **Sean Gold-rich** four times while allowing no offensive touchdowns and a punishing Terrier running attack that ran for an astonishing 479 rushing yards on 77 carries, including 247 to fullback **Eric Breitenstein**.

Sports 101: Who holds the record for most homers by these second basemen? Rank the others from most to least: **Joe Morgan**, **Joe Gordon**, **Rogers Hornsby**, **Ryne Sandberg**, and **Jeff Kent**.

Honors: Tops among the five players selected to the New England Football Writers Division I FCS All-New England Team first team was Central alum **Seamus O'Neill** at offensive tackle. That honor goes along with being named first team all Colonial Athletic Association previously after the junior has started 23 consecutive games at left tackle while anchoring a line that helped the Cats average 35.7 points and gain 470.9 total yards per game.

The Numbers:

1 – number overall on the big board of SI NBA writer **Chris Mannix** projecting where ex-Tilton Prep star and current Kentucky Wildcat freshman **Nerlens Noel** will go in the 2013 NBA draft.

4 – goals scored by St. Anselm's **Bryan (lex) Luther** in a Superman-like effort that proved to be Kryptonite for Assumption in a 7-0 Hawks win.

5 – third-period goals

allowed by the Manchester Monarchs on Friday when a 3-0 lead entering the final period turned into a 5-4 loss to Springfield.

11 – points scored by local lad **Mike Stys** to be one of four Penmen in double figures, which did not prove to be enough as Franklin Pierce handed SNHU a loss on Tuesday, 83-73.

13.7 – points per game averaged off the bench by Nashua's **Kelsey Hogan** in the 3-1 start by the UNH

Honors – the Sequel: After playing a vital role in helping the SNHU women's soccer team go to its first NCAA tournament since 2003, Memorial alum **Kaleigh Roberge** has been named to the Daktronics D-II All American squad as an honorable mention. She got in leading SNHU to a 13-5-2 season as she scored seven goals and assisted on the same number.

The Numbers: In case you missed it, one of the two winners of the gigantic Power Ball jackpot I missed out on last week used numbers from great Kansas City Royals. Hey, in the winning 5-16-22-23-29 and 6 combo, I'm with him on **George Brett**, **Bo Jackson**, **Dennis Leonard**, **Dan Quisenberry** and **Willie Wilson**. But how in the name of **Freddie Patek** did **Mark Gubicza** (23) get onto that list over **Brett Saberhagen** and **Amos Otis**?

Sports 101 Answer: With 388, Kent has the most homers by a second baseman, followed by Hornsby (301), Sandberg (282) Morgan (268) and Gordon (242).

On This Date – Dec. 6: 1925 – All-time record 73,000 watch the Chicago Bears beat the New York Giants. **1960** – AL grants **Gene Autry** new franchise in Los Angeles.

basketball team, when the captain also is averaging 3.7 boards and 5.0 assists.

28.3 – percent of fans voting in a NewYorkPost.com poll for New Hampshire resident **Robert Fulmer**, known at Jets games as "Jet Man," to replace the retiring **Fireman Ed** as the fan mascot for the New York J-E-T-S Jets-Jets-Jets.

32 – game-high points from **Roy Mabrey** to lead Saint Anselm to a 98-83 win over Merrimack.

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FRUGAL FUN

Things to do for free or cheap

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

I attended Hollis Yoga's community class on Wednesday because it cost \$6 — more than half off the regular price.

"Have you practiced yoga before?" owner Doris Grillo asked me while helping me find the yoga accessories I'd need: a mat, a blanket, a pillow, two blocks, and what looked like a bathrobe belt.

I had, but never with these fancy tools. My yoga resume included paddleboard yoga, laughter yoga, and the yoga channels you find on Comcast. So I wasn't doing the handstands that one of the more practiced yoga students did during the hour-and-a-half class, but I did leave feeling much more relaxed — and did I mention it only cost \$6?

As I left, grabbing a Dove dark chocolate candy and a Lifesaver mint on my way out the door, I couldn't help thinking that I was being cheap, attending this class having never been to Hollis Yoga class before. I wouldn't have gone if it were full price.

But in a state known for its penny-pinching, I'm more inclined to think I was just being a sensible, deal-seeking victim of a tough economy, someone looking for a little amusement without emptying my wallet. Throughout my search for good, cheap fun, I found out one thing for certain: I'm much more likely to try something new if I don't have to pay a lot. Ballroom dancing for free, anyone?

Check out all the fun you can have in one day or one weekend without having to sell a sibling on eBay.



A money-conscious weekend

Saturday for less than \$10:

I spent about two hours on a recent Saturday morning at the **Currier Museum of Art** (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144). The museum offers free admission for children during all hours, but if you arrive on Saturday between 10 a.m. and noon, adults can bypass the regular admission, too (\$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$8 for students during all other hours).

Saturday morning crowds are thicker than usual (probably because it's the only time you can get in for free), but this almost adds a warmer, more community-like feel to the gallery. I actually talked with a woman I didn't know about "White Mountain Breakfront," a remarkable collaboration between furniture maker David Lamb and James Aponovich. "Wouldn't this be nice to have in your living room?" she asked me.

Part of the fun in an art museum like this are the interactive elements between or within exhibits. Before you walk into the printmaking exhibit, for instance, there's a room tucked to the side of the entrance where you can create your own self-portrait. Once you walk through the exhibit, you can use the magnifying glasses hanging on the wall to inspect the miniscule prints. If you stick around until 1 p.m., you can catch a free guided tour.

After your trip to the museum, you can mosey on over to the **Wild Rover**, just a few minutes away. On Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m., appetizers are half off. You can get spinach and cheese dip served with warm tortilla chips, for example, and enjoy the regular portion size for half the price.

After walking around a museum all morning and grabbing a light bite, spend the rest of your afternoon at a movie. Choose **Regal Hooksett 8** (100 Technology Drive, Hooksett), and you'll spend much less than you would at an IMax theater. Sure, the movies are a little older, but what does that matter when you're paying \$3.50 to see a movie on the big screen? And they're popular movies, too: the lineup recently included *Brave*, *The Campaign*, and *Madagascar 3*. I saw *The Campaign*. With fewer crowds, less popcorn throwing and less talking, Regal Hooksett 8 also offered a more peaceful movie experience all around.

Saturday's Total:

Currier (\$0)
Spinach Dip (\$4)
+ Movie (\$3.50)

\$7.50

Sunday for less than \$20:

What better way to avoid the crowds and stress of Saturday night bowling than to do it on Sunday morning instead?

Leda Lanes (340 Amherst St., Nashua) offers an "all you can bowl" Sunday mornings, 9 a.m. to noon, for \$9 per person. If you go online and join its VIP Bowlers club, **Spare Time Manchester** (stadiumtenpin.net, 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656) offers a buy-one-get-one-free discount. Lots of local bowling recreation centers offer discounts like these (see box).

If there's snow on the ground and you're not into bowling, take your cross-country skis or snowshoes to the trails at the **Massabesic Audubon Center** (16 Audubon Way, Auburn) instead. Snowshoes are available for rental at the center if you don't have any: \$7 for members, \$9 for nonmembers.

However you spend your morning, you can catch some football at the **Farm Bar & Grille** (1181 Elm St., 641-2922) on Sunday. During games, they offer a \$5 tailgate menu and \$2.25 Bud products.

Still not ready to go home? Follow up your high-calorie lunch with a free dance lesson — seriously. I recently attended a complimentary dance lesson at **Queen City Ballroom** (21 Dow St., Manchester, queencityballroomnh.com), sporting Toms and a pair of worn jeans.

These lessons occur every Sunday from 4 to 4:45 p.m., taught by the lovely Karen Shackleford. I was nervous for the first lesson, but Shackleford made the class incredibly easy. We learned basic steps from the Fox Trot after a brief description of the style and musical accompaniment that go with it. The Fox Trot is usually danced to Big Band, peppy music, while swing, which we danced to after, has a bit more tempo.

She starts beginners off slow, she said, giving them just enough information about the dance itself while not overwhelming newcomers in this brief lesson. The first lesson is free, and the subsequent Beginner Ballroom Sampler classes are \$5 each visit. If you can't make this 4 p.m. sampler class, newbies are offered a complimentary dance lesson by appointment.

You won't even break the bank if you find that you really love dancing and can't wait to come back for more. You can stay for the weekly Sunday Dance Party, from 6 to 9 p.m., where singles and couples of all ages are welcome to dance Latin, swing, ballroom and specialty dances. The lights are dimmed, the turnout is usually around 20 to 40 people, and it's a "great way to socialize," Shackleford said. Your first par-

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Aaron Damus (left) teaches a salsa class at Queen City Ballroom. Courtesy photo.

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ty is free, and after that, they're \$9 for the three hours of dancing.

If you're not into dancing, you might want to try another kind of too-fun-to-be-exercise class. Every Sunday at 4 p.m., **Sharing Yoga** (3 Pleasant St., Concord, 630-5576) offers a free community yoga class at 4 p.m. It's an ongoing class that the yoga center has organized for about a year, said owner David Breen.

"It's by donation. We decided to have it for folks who might not be able to pay for yoga, and they're welcome to come free of charge," Breen said.

The class lasts about an hour, and it's something that beginners can do, he said. Every three months, the donations that they do receive in this class are donated to a local charity. Past donations went to the

Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire and Charitable Giving.

If you're closer to southern New Hampshire, you may want to try **Amherst Yoga** (10 Northern Blvd., Amherst) instead. They also hold a free yoga class on the first Sunday of each month, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Sunday's Total:

Three hours of Leda Lanes (\$9)
snowshoeing/cross-country skiing
(FREE if you have your own)
Farm lunch (\$5, not including tip)
+ yoga or dancing (\$0)

\$14.00

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Money-conscious all week long

It's a shame that weekdays are usually so busy for most people; some of the best deals can be found Monday through Friday.

In keeping with my do-something-new-for-cheap project, I attended an event I'd only ever read about in our Hippo listings: **Slam Free or Die**. Milly's Tavern (500 N. Commercial St., Manchester) hosts the popular poetry event weekly and requests \$3 from all attendees to help fund the group. It is The Place for slam poetry in New Hampshire, with members who have competed in the National Poetry Slam.

Doors open at 7 p.m., so I arrived at 6:45 (too early). I was immediately greeted by some of the Slam Free or Die crew. One member was Sam Teitel. "Are you new?" he asked when I came in. Slam Free or Die-hards love fresh meat; they like to use newcomers as judges in the Poetry Slam competition. This way, there's less possi-

bility for bias, and Teitel said you need not have experience with poetry.

They recruit judges throughout the night, but the actual slam doesn't get going until later. Each Thursday (except for Thanksgiving) features at least a poetry open mike and one feature performer. Slams are usually held every other Thursday night; sign up at the door and visit their Facebook page under SlamFree OrDie.

Attending a poetry slam is like attending a party where you already know everyone. Except that you don't. It just feels that way because everyone is friendly, especially if you're new. If you stand up to read and announce that you're new, you get an extra loud clap, whoop, or a "Yeah you are!" The majority of the crowd are regulars (you might be able to tell who's new based on how they respond to the word "waitlist;" if they wave their arms or shriek in protest, then they're probably regulars).

FRUGAL FUN

Southern New Hampshire University (2500 N. River Road, Manchester) has a new creative arts series, with 50 events that are open to the public. Almost all of them are free. This Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., for instance, is the SNHU Orchestra and Wind Ensemble concert at the St. Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell St., Manchester. Also look for these free events coming up soon: the film *Gloria* on Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.; *A Classic Holiday Story*, on Thursday, Dec. 13, where British Literature students will perform a dramatic reading of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, followed by a performance by the SNHU chorus; and on Thursday, Dec. 20, at 6 p.m., SNHU music majors perform.

Let's Dance studio in Concord (5 Main St., Concord, 228-2800) hosts **Open Dance Parties** every Thursday, 8 to 10 p.m., free for Let's Dance students, \$5 for non-students. It's ballroom dancing for any skill level. Not into ballroom? You could try something a bit more informal: **World Dance** is on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church (20 Elm St., Milford). Each night, all of the dances are taught by the participants, who bring moves from all over the world, said Mary Koon, a member since the group's inception 20 years ago. Each dance is learned the night of. There's a Winter Solstice Dance on Thursday, Dec. 13, which will be a big dancing event, Koon said. Each participant is requested to donate \$5, which contributes to the church rental space. "It's contagious. Once you get the bug, you want to keep coming out," Koon said of World Dance. Call her at 487-2732 or email her at maryfloyd62@comcast.net.

For some weekday yoga, **Sharing Yoga** also offers a free class for veterans on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Registration is required for this class, and spots fill up fast. If you're into something really chip-

MEMBERSHIPS

If you or your family has a particular affection for one or a couple of museums in New Hampshire, it might also be cost-efficient to obtain a membership. Membership at the SEE Science Museum, for instance, is \$80 per year for an entire family. This pass will pay for itself with a couple of visits to the museum (especially if you have a large family). A pass like this is also accepted at the Millyard Museum (also \$8 admission) and 250 museums across the country, part of the ASTC passport, which gives you free admission to a number of museums in New England (including the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, and the Mount Washington Observatory and Weather Discovery Center).

MORE INEXPENSIVE WEEKEND OPTIONS:

some for this winter, some for anytime you're looking for something to do

At **Boutwell's Bowl** (162 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941), you can play two games for \$9.25, \$13 for three games, or \$32 to use one hour of a bowling lane. (Call ahead and set up a reservation; includes shoes.)

Strikers East Bowling Center (4 Essex Road, Raymond, 895-9501) offers a holiday deal; for every \$25 spent on gift cards, you get \$5 in return as a complimentary coupon (valid through January). If you check out their website (strikers-east.com), you print out a coupon here, too: buy one game at regular price, get one free (shoes not included), which is good for open bowling only.

At **King Lanes** (751 Mast Road, Manchester) shoe rentals are \$1.75 per person, and bowling costs \$3.75 per game, per person. Glow bowling is Saturdays, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. with the same prices.

Amoskeag Fishways offers "Let's Go ICE Fishing" on Saturday, Feb. 16, from 9 a.m. to noon (free event, registration required); and "Winter Eagles Along the Merrimack" on Saturday, Feb. 9, at 9 a.m. Cost is \$2 per person, \$5 per family.

While some of the free programming associated with the **NH Audubon** (nhaudubon.org) quiets down during the winter time, you can still find plenty to do. Bird banding events are still going on, with the next on Saturday, Jan. 5, from 10 a.m. to noon., at the **Massabesic Center** (28 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045). Using mist nets to catch birds, participants will ID, band and record findings for the national database. For some organized snowshoe recreation, try out **Snowshoe Frisbee Golf** on Saturday, Jan. 26, and Saturday, Feb. 9, with tee times at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person on Jan. 26, \$15 on Feb. 9. For birding enthusiasts, you can meet at the **McLane Audubon Center** (8 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909) with Rob Woodward for a field trip to view Bald Eagles on the Merrimack, on Sunday, Jan. 27, at 8:30 a.m. (Call him at 224-0889.)

Once it's cold enough, you can lace up your skates for an outdoor skating session at places like Dorrs Pond at Livingston Park in Manchester. But if you don't want to wait, check out the **Conway Ice Arena** (8 Riverside St., Nashua, conwayarena.com), which hosts public skating most every day for about two hours (\$5 per skater, free for kids under 3); **Cyclones Arena** (20 Constitution Drive, Hudson, cyclonesarena.com) for about an hour and a half, \$5 per skater; or the **Everett Ice Skating Arena** (15 Loudon Road, Concord), about two hours for \$5.

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per, attend a **Laughter Yoga class**. Marcia Wyman holds three free classes each week: Mondays, 7:15 to 7:45 a.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 174 Pleasant St., Concord; Tuesdays, 7 to 7:45 p.m., at the Racquet Club, Gavin Falls Road, Concord; and Wednesdays, 12:15 to 12:45 p.m., at Health Promotions SMILE Building, 49 S. Main St., Concord. Email center.of.laughter@gmail.com. The perks of being a first-time yoga student is that at

most places, your first class is free. This is true at **Yoga Sanctuary** (25 Indian Roack Road, The Commons, Suit 21, Windham, 537-0588, yogasanctuary.com; reduced rate for newbies, too); and at **OM Yoga Studio** (atomyoga.com, 40 N. Main St., Concord, 545-7380).

Come for "Monday Madness" at **Spare Time Manchester** (stadiumtenpin.net, 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656), which offers unlimited bowling with shoes, 9

Munchies in greater Manch-Vegas

900 Degrees (50 Dow St., Manchester) \$5 "teeny Tuesday" martini.

Auburn Pitts (167 Rockingham Road, Auburn, 622-6564) daily \$5 lunch special.

Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001) wine specials on Sunday night, with 40 percent off bottles of wine \$80 or more, and 40 percent off cruvinet wines.

British Beer Company (1071 S. Willow St., Manchester, 232-0677) free pizza and free chicken wings Monday to Thursday, 3-5 p.m. On Sunday you can munch on 25-cent wings or a free pitcher of beer with pizza purchase.

The Derryfield (625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-2880) \$2 drafts, \$5 pitchers during games on Sunday, 25-cent wings, and burgers and pizza for under \$4 during Sunday football. After every score change there's a new drink special. Happy Hour is Monday to Friday, 4-7 p.m.

Element Lounge (1055 Elm St., Manchester, 627-2922) "Beer Buster" every Tuesday night, with \$1 drafts and \$4 house liquor drinks. Karaoke is Thursday, 8-midnight, and Sunday, 5 p.m. to close.

Farm Bar & Grille (1181 Elm St., 641-3276) Happy hour Monday to Friday, 3-6 p.m., \$2.50 draft beers, \$5 "Farm Favorites" and half off apps. "Kids Eat Free" Monday (adults must order an entree), 35-cent wings on Thursday, a \$5 tailgate menu Sundays and \$2.25 Bud products during NFL games.

KC's RIB Shack (837 Second St., Manchester, 627-7427) For every \$5 spent on

gift cards get \$1 back.

Jillian's Billiard Club (50 Philippe Cote Drive, Manchester, 626-7636) has a Ladies Night every Thursday night, with \$3 Smirnoff single mixed drinks. \$2 and \$3 pints and mugs during football and basketball games.

Luigi's Pizza Bar & Grille (712 Valley St., Manchester, 622-1021) Sunday to Wednesday, get two pasta dinners with sides of garlic bread for \$19.95.

Milly's Tavern (500 Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444) happy hour Monday to Friday, 4 to 7 p.m., with half-price appetizers and most drafts \$1. Fifty-cent wings and select \$2 drafts during football games.

Murphy's Taproom (494 Elm St., Manchester, 644-3535) two-for-one pizzas Monday night; \$2 drafts Tuesday; Ladies Night Wednesday with half-price cocktails; Thursday, \$3 drafts; Friday, \$2 drafts until 9 p.m.; Sunday, hotel and restaurant workers get 25 percent off. Daily happy hour, 4 to 6 p.m.

Salona Bar & Grill (128 Maple St., Manchester, 624-4020) Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, dinner for two, 4 to 11 p.m. \$21.99 for two. From 2 to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and all day Sunday, there are \$1.75 pints and \$5 pitchers of Bud, Bud Light and Coors Light.

Social 24 (24 Depot St., Manchester, 782-8489) \$2 drinks and drafts and two-for-one apps on Tuesday. Monday to Friday, happy hour, 4 to 6, half off apps, drink specials.

Strange Brew Tavern (88 Market St., Manchester,

666-4292) Sunday and Monday, 4 to 8 p.m., \$3 drafts/drinks, half-price apps; Tuesday, select drafts and bottles at \$2, half price appetizers; \$2.50 beer, \$5 burgers on Wednesday; \$3 drinks/beers on Thursday and an entree special; \$3 beers and \$3 drinks on Saturday and Sunday, half off appetizers 4 to 7 p.m.

Portland Pie (786 Elm St., Manchester, 622-7437) \$2 Bud Light Pints on Monday; \$3 Sebago drafts on Tuesday; \$3 Shipyards on Thursdays; and on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, \$3 Mug Club Drafts.

Unwine'd (865 Second St., Manchester, 625-9463) happy hour nightly, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday to Friday, half off "shared" items with two meals. Wacky Wine Wednesday, 25 percent off any bottle. Thursday is Ladies Night: half off cheese, chocolate, 20 percent off drinks and entrees.

Village Trestle (25 Main St., Goffstown, 497-8230) Happy hour 4-6 p.m., Monday through Friday. All drafts are \$1.50 and well drinks are \$4.

The Wild Rover (21 Kosciuszko St., Manchester, 669-7722) 21 offers \$1 off bar drinks Tuesday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.; half-price apps Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.; and \$2.50 draft, Sunday and Monday nights, 4 p.m. to close.

Whippersnappers (44 Nashua Road, Londonderry, 434-2660) from 4 p.m. to close on Monday, \$1 domestic drafts/\$2 premium drafts; \$3.99 Cuervo Blanco margaritas; \$5 martinis/cosmos; and \$5 drink/shot of the night.

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p.m. to midnight, for just \$9, or unlimited bowling with pizza slices on Thursdays, 9 p.m. to midnight, for \$13. **Merrimack Ten Pin** (698 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 419-0989) is \$3.25 per game, and shoes coast \$3.50 to rent, but if you play during the week, you can get three games and rent a pair of shoes for \$11, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Visit merrimacktenpin.com.

If \$3.50 for a movie is too much, see a free flick at your local library; most show films weekly. Coming up: **Manchester's library** shows *Men in Black 3* at the West Branch (76 N. Main St., Manchester) on Friday, Dec. 7, from 3 to 5:15 p.m.; *The Hunger Games* on Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m., and on Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 1 p.m., in the Main Branch Auditorium (405 Pine St., Manchester); and *Paranorman* Friday, Dec. 14, from 3 to 5:15 p.m., at the West Branch. **The Nashua Public Library** (2 Court St., Nashua) shows *The Odd Life of Timothy Green* on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m., in the library theater, and Saturday, Dec. 15, features *Ice Age*. Visit nashualibrary.org for upcoming movies and times.

The **Walker Lecture series** (walker-lecture.org) offers free courses of lectures on history, literature, art or science at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord). The next lecture is on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m., featuring Monty Brown. He'll present "England's



Liam and Caleb Beatham of Dover have enjoyed meeting the Lorax and other popular children's book characters at the Children's Museum of NH. Courtesy photo.

West Country," taking listeners on a journey through Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall.

For the kids' holiday vacation

One of the most important things to learn when it comes to saving money: Never go to a museum without checking with your local library first. A large number of museums in the region offer library partnerships,

Noshes in and around Nashua

AJ's Sports Bar & Grill (11 Tracy Lane, 718-1102, Hudson) happy hour Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., includes \$2 domestic drafts, \$3 wines. During Patriots games, 40-cent jumbo wings.

Boston Billiard Club (55 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, 595-2121) Half-price bottle of wine Wednesday; half-priced drinks, free acoustic musi Friday, 4 to 7 p.m.

Country Tavern (452 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-5871) On Tuesdays there are half-price beer specials; on Wednesday, half-price martinis; Thursday half-price wine, all night long.

Fody's Tavern (9 Clinton St., Nashua, 577-9015) Happy hour from 4:30 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, with half off drafts and house wines; \$4.99 burger and tavern fries on Sundays; half off select drinks for restaurant employees on

Mondays; and half off wine bottles on Wednesdays.

The Homestead (641 DW Highway, Merrimack, 429-2022) happy hour 5 to 6 p.m., \$5 appetizers, half off well drinks and beers, Monday through Thursday. Sunday, 29 cent wings.

Killarney's Irish Pub (Holiday Inn, Nashua, 888-1551) \$5 burgers on Tuesdays, 8 to 10 p.m.; 25-cent wings 8 to 10 p.m. on Wednesdays; Team Trivia and Sam Adams specials 7 to 9 p.m. Happy hour is Monday to Friday: \$1 Bud draughts from 3 to 4 p.m., \$2 from 4 to 5 p.m., \$2.50 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Martha's Exchange (185 Main St., Nashua, 883-8781) Happy hour is Monday through Friday, 4 to 6 p.m. Buy one drink, get one for a penny; select appetizers half off.

Michael Timothy's (212 Main St., Nash-

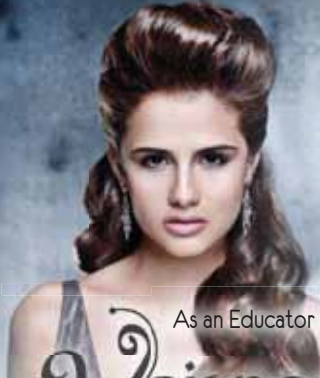
ua, 595-9334) "Oddball Wednesdays," purchase discounted bottles of wine. Saturday, complimentary wine tastings from 1 to 3 p.m.

Nashua Garden (121 Main St., Nashua, 886-7363) Happy hour is 4 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, when all draft beers are \$2.50. Wednesday is the big special night, with Beat the Clock starting at 8 p.m. Beers start \$1 at 8 p.m., going up 25 cents each half hour.

Pine St. Eatery (136 Pine St., Nashua, 886-3501) has a senior discount of 15 percent off all dining items.

Slade's Food & Spirits (4 W. Hollis St., Nashua, 886-1334) cheeseburger basket for \$5 Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Villa Banca (194 Main St., Nashua, 598-0500) Buy a \$25 gift card, get \$5 off your check.



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At the **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center** (2 Institute Drive, Concord, starhop.com), up to four locals may enter the exhibit galleries for free with a library museum pass. (Regular admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for kids.) This museum boasts rotating exhibits, an observatory, and some Super Stellar Fridays. If you want to see a Planetarium show, it'll cost \$4 on top of the \$0 you've spent. These too rotate; right now, you can see "Tonight's Sky," "Black Holes," "Our Place in Space," and "2012 Mayan Prophecies."

The **Discovery Center** is always changing, so you can visit it a few times a year and still see something different with each day. The stars, for instance, are different with each observatory visit, which is available for viewing Thursday through Sunday, from 1 to 4 p.m., and the first and second Friday evenings each month, 6:30 to 9 p.m.

The **SEE Science Museum** (200 Bedford St., Manchester) is open seven days a week, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Regular admission is \$8 per person for ages 3 and older; however, local libraries such as the Manchester City Library are part of the museum's library membership program and offer free passes for library members.

The **Children's Museum of New Hampshire** (6 Washington St., Dover, childrens-museum.org, 742-2002) offers a

More deals!

Know of a happy hour or other fun free ride not mentioned here? Let us know. For food and drink related events, send info to food@hippopress.com for possible inclusion in an upcoming Weekly Dish column. Send info on other free or cheap fun to listings@hippopress.com.

Dollar Deal Night on the first Friday evening of each month, October through June, 5:30 to 8 p.m. During these nights, admission is \$1 for all attending, and with this, you have access to the entire museum. You may also reserve a half-price pass at a local library, and active-duty military families get a 10-percent discount all year long. If you're a AAA member or are a donor with NH Public TV or NH Public Radio, you get a "buy one get one free" deal off the regular \$9 admission.

Also keep an eye on the **Millyard Museum** (manchesterhistoric.org, 200 Bedford St., Manchester, 622-7531). Every so often, you'll come across an event that includes free admission, such as Manchester Open Doors, which happens three times a year (keep tabs on majestictheatre.net), or last week's Holiday Open House. Even if you're not typically a history connoisseur, it's worth a visit to see what Manchester looked like years ago. Regular admission is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages 12-18, and free for children. If you're a member of the SEE Science Center, you can get in here for free.

In the state's only working museum devoted to aviation history, you can learn a whole lot for little money. Folks at the **New Hampshire Aviation Museum** (13 S. Perimeter Road, Londonderry) welcome everyone with an interest in learning about the people, places and events related to flight in New Hampshire. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$2.50 for kids ages 12-16 and free for kids under 12.

Amoskeag Fishways Family Friday Night (6 Fletcher St., Manchester, amoskeagfishways.org) events are usually once or twice a month, with the next one, "Winter Hawks and Owls," on Friday, Dec. 14, 7-8 p.m. (\$5 per family). There are also **Fishway Fundays**, also about once a month. The next event is on Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. or 12:30 to 2 p.m., "Eco-Art with Evergreens," where kids will learn the beauty and special traits of local evergreen trees by using them to create natural art projects (\$5 per family, for children ages 4 to 5, accompanied by an adult). One of Amoskeag's biggest events is the open house, Thursday, Dec. 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., an afternoon of free fun that includes live animal shows. 🐾

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Chen Yang Li (520 S. St., Concord, 228-8308) Free rice and chicken wings with to-go dinner entree.

Hermanos (11 Hills Ave., Concord, 224-5669) is holding a holiday gift certificate sale through Dec. 20, where if you buy a certain amount in gift certificates, you receive additional money in certificates. You can also sign up for weekly coupons if you join their email list on their website.

Penuche's Ale House Concord (6 Pleasant St., Concord, 228-9833) Happy hour is every night, 5 to 6 p.m. and 9 to 10 p.m., which includes \$2 drafts.

Red Blazer (72 Manchester St., Concord, 224-4101) happy hour every day 2 to 6 p.m., with \$3 drafts.

Tandy's Top Shelf (1 Eagle Square, Concord, 856-7614) happy hour 3 to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday; half off drinks and half off apps.

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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT DECEMBER 6 - 12, 2012, AND BEYOND

Friday, Dec. 7

Downtown Concord's traditional Midnight Merriment starts at 5:30 p.m. Visit downtown for holiday events and activities. The Winter Giftopolis, an extension of the Concord Arts Market, will feature a variety of handmade crafts at 7 Eagle Square. Admission is free. Visit www.intownconcord.org.



Friday, Dec. 7

For a huge selection of crafts, visit the New England Holiday Craft Festival at Rockingham Park (79 Rockingham Park Blvd., Salem) today, plus Saturday, Dec. 8, and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Browse through the offerings of 200 vendors from throughout New England. Admission for all three days is \$7. Visit www.castleberry-fairs.com.

Sunday, Dec. 9

Take the Holiday Home Tour at 3 p.m. The Palace Theatre and local businesses are sponsoring the tour, which begins at Ira Lexus (18 Kilton Road, Bedford) and will visit four Bedford homes decorated for the holidays. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 on the day of the tour. Visit www.palacetheatre.org.

Sunday, Dec. 9

Time out for tea at the annual Mother Daughter Tea at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford). The event features special menus with teas. The cost is \$34 for adults, \$29 for children ages 4 through 10. For reservations, call 472-2001. See menus and times at www.bedfordvillage-inn.com.



Wednesday, Dec. 12

Check out a fashionable fundraiser at Sizzle Bistro (1 Highlander Way, Manchester) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The fashion show is presented by Statement and George's Apparel. Designer Alan Scott and *American Idol* contestant Skylar Laine will be there. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$35 at the door, and proceeds benefit the New Hampshire Prostate Cancer Coalition. Visit www.nhprostatecancer.org.



Cheap: book talk

Donald Hall will talk about his new book, *Christmas at Eagle Pond*, on Thursday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m., at Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St., Concord). Tickets are \$6 from Red River Theatres or free with each purchase of *Christmas at Eagle Pond* from Gibson's Bookstore. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

Splurge: dinner and a show

Have dinner while watching "The Gifts of the Magi," presented by the Majestic Theatre on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m., at the Chateau Event Center (201 Hanover St., Manchester, 627-2677). The \$32-\$35 ticket includes dinner. Order tickets by calling 669-7469 or visiting majestictheatre.net.

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ARTS

Making art happen

Studio 550 mixing art, dance, martial arts

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Ever since Monica Leap raised the Studio 550 sign on Elm Street, passersby have been stopping by the brick building to ask when the studio will open and what it's all about.

Well, it's finally happening. After months of delays and anticipation, Leap's dream is coming true — Studio 550 opens its doors to the public on Saturday, Dec. 15, with an open house and series of demonstrations.

The studio aims to be a lot of things, among them an art gallery and a place to take art classes, dance classes, fire spinning classes and martial arts classes. Ultimately, Leap wants it to be a place to learn and create and relax. She hopes to draw artists and non-artists to this community space, to make art less of a thing you see and more of a thing you do.

"What I've noticed around Manchester [is that] much of the time, art is a spectator sport. But I consider art something to experience," she said. Creativity is everywhere, and in order to really appreciate art, you need to be in the midst of it, getting your hands muddy from a pottery wheel or dyed in rainbow colors from painting.

Studio 550 has been nearly two years in the making, but creating this arts center has been a dream of Leap's since she studied art at Syracuse University. She earned her master's degree in City and Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina, and she was on the verge of accepting a Fulbright fellowship in Cambodia when she found out about this open space in Manchester. It was the perfect location (across from the Verizon Wireless Arena) and perfect size (two large classrooms, one large art movement space, tons of room for studio space), and really, the perfect time to do it. So she turned down the coveted fellowship and went to work.

The opening was pushed back countless times due to contracting issues, until this summer, when Leap took matters into her own hands and became the contracting manager herself. She was working full time at the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission while she tinkered with the final details.

The studio's coming to fruition is especially sweet to Leap because of what she hopes it will bring to the community. She grew up in Nashua as the daughter of two Cambodian immigrants who left their war-stricken coun-

Check it out!

Stop by and meet the petite, energetic artist looking to change the face of community art in Manchester at the **Open House** event on Saturday, Dec. 15. From 2 to 6 p.m., there are free classes all day in yoga, belly dance, tai chi, hoop, felting, poi, in addition to wheel, handbuilding and sculpture demos all day. From 6 to 7:30 p.m., there will be a gallery reception and performances, and from 7:30 p.m. to midnight, visitors can enjoy Argentine Tango lessons with Randy Avis from Queen City Ballroom for \$10.

Studio 550 (550 Elm St., Manchester, 759-0466, info@550arts.com) classes begin on Jan. 7.

try in the late 1970s for a better life. She wants to use her talent to build communities that people will want to stay in.

The old brick building on Elm Street is also a special place for her and her family. Her parents, owners of Lucky Super Market in Somersworth, began their Asian food market business in the same space that she's turning into an art center. At the time, it was called Asian Market Center, she says as she points to the "AMC" letters that still adorn the brick building front.

The mission is to engage, nurture and sustain artists of all ages, backgrounds and abilities. Leap hopes more people will want to become involved once Studio 550 gets started. "That's the whole idea in a community arts center: it only works when all of these other people get involved," she said.

It's important, she said, because

creativity goes beyond your basic art and pottery classes.

"When you ask most people if they consider themselves creative, they usually shy away from this word," she said. "But most people are creative. You have to be creative to do most anything, from tying your shoe, in teaching someone how to do something, in speaking another language, to doing anything on a budget."

"This is just another avenue for that. And I hope it becomes a place where more people realize that they are creative. I feel like the city is ready for it — with the Currier, the New Hampshire Institute of Art, there's this critical mass [of art], but there's no landing pad," she said.



Monica Leap, owner of Studio 550. Courtesy of Alex Metzger.



Theresa Caulkins will teach stained glass and Annie Campbell and Kate Cuppola will teach clay. A list of classes that will start on Jan. 7 can be viewed on the website (550arts.com), as can pricing.

26 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

29 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

30 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

ART LISTINGS

Art events

- **TWILIGHT TOURS** at Frank Lloyd Wright Zimmerman House on Thurs., Dec. 6, at 5-6:30 p.m. Price of \$30 includes museum admission and beverage of choice from Winter Garden Cafe. Reservation required; call 669-6144, ext. 108.
- **NATURE STORE HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AND ART SHOW** on Thurs., Dec. 6, 5-8 p.m., at NH Audubon's McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord). Holiday shopping, refreshments and photographer Rick Frost on hand showcasing nature-inspired photos. Call 224-9909 or visit nhaudubon.org.
- **FIRST THURSDAY LIVE** with guitarist Paul Desmaris on

Thurs., Dec. 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Currier Museum, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Free for members, \$10 for non-members.

- **FIRST CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Fri., Dec. 7, 6-8 p.m., at the Trumpet Gallery (20 Grove St., Peterborough). Artists show work and Mike Wakefield will provide festive tunes. Donation of \$10 requested.
- **GIFTOPOLIS** at Concord's Midnight Merriment on Fri., Dec. 7, from 6:30 p.m. through midnight. Features eclectic selection of over two dozen local and regional artisans and fine artists, in the atrium at 7 Eagle Square, Concord. Visit granitestatearts-market.com.
- **WINTERLUDE HOLIDAY ART SHOW AND SALE** on Fri., Dec. 7, 3-8 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 8,

10 a.m.-5 p.m., at 19 Grove St., Peterborough. Featuring work by Danielle M. LeBris, Elaine Cummings, Deborah Lloyd Kaufman, Frankie Brackley Tolman and Kristina Wentzell.

- **PATTERNS AND LAMB/APONIVICH DEMONSTRATION** on Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Hands-on activities, guided family gallery tour, and watch featured artists James Apovich paint and David Lamb carve.
- **ROCKINGHAM PARK NEW ENGLAND HOLIDAY CRAFT FESTIVAL** on Fri., Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 79 Rockingham Park Blvd., Salem. Admission is \$7 for all three days.
- **LIBRARY STREET HOLI-**

DAY CRAFT FAIR on Sat., Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 22 Library St., Hudson. The fair will feature crafts, raffles, a bake table and kids craft area.

- **BISHOP BRADY HIGH SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARTISAN FAIR** on Sat., Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Bishop Brady High School, 25 Columbus Ave., Concord. Visitors can purchase NH-made maple products, jams, jewelry, soaps, body products, quilts, fleece wear, pottery and more.
- **HOLIDAY BIZARRE** alternative craft fair on Sat., Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the first floor lobby of the Newmarket Mills. Art, craft, vintage, vinyl clothing, accessories, toys, books comics of alternative nature. Music by artists Stu Dias, Chelsea Paolini,

Cody Pope, the Methans, Nate Laban and more.

- **HOLIDAY MARKET** InTown Manchester (Brady Sullivan Plaza, 1000 Elm St., Manchester) on Thursdays, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. More than 40 local vendors will sell their artisan goods all month long.
- **HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD** with the NH League of NH Craftmen's exhibit at 49 Main St., Concord. Handmade ornaments, jewelry, a nativity set, mugs, vases, prints, tablecloths, folk art and more. Call 224-3375 or visit www.nhcrafts.org.
- **ARTFUL GIVING 2012** at Mill Brook Gallery and Sculpture Garden (236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, themillbrookgallery.com, 226-2046). Open until Dec. 24, Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Holiday NH-made gifts start at \$15.

- **THE ANDRES INSTITUTE OF ART** in Brookline offers guided walking and audio tours of its sculpture park and studio. Call 673-8441, or visit andresinstitute.org.
- **ART 'ROUND TOWN** is held the first Friday of the month (year round) from 5 to 8 p.m. in downtown Portsmouth. Visit arroundtown.org.
- **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late from 5:30-7:30 p.m., first Thursday of each month with special programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, ext. 108, currier.org.

ART LOCAL COLOR

• **Two become one:** The New Hampshire Institute of Art announced that it will formally merge with and assume management of the Sharon Arts Center in Sharon and Peterborough. This merger comes seven months after the two arts organizations announced a creative partnership. "Given that each institution has particular strengths in the areas of facilities, technology and educational resources, the merger between the two organizations will create expanded opportunities for artists of all levels and interests," said Institute President Roger Williams in a press release. What does this mean? The institute will expand academically and, for example, offer a variety of low-residency MFA classes in Peterborough, including visual arts, photography and creative writing. "Collaborating on a deeper level makes sense in strengthening economic sustainability, bringing educational continuity to the life and pursuit of the artist, and achieving our unified mission that addresses artists at every phase of their work," Williams said.

• **See them at work:** Stop by at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) this weekend for Family Saturday. This week, on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., families can revel in hands-on activities, join a guided family gallery tour (at 11:30 a.m.), visit the Discovery Gallery or see artists at work. David Lamb and James Aponovich, artists of the Currier's newest exhibit, will be at the gallery, where you can see Aponovich paint and Lamb demonstrate the intricate carving techniques used to create their collaborative piece, "White Mountain Breakfront." Be sure to get in while admission is free, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

• **'Tis the season to be crafty:** It's a



David Lamb and James Aponovich. Courtesy photo.

metropolis of gifts at the Winter Giftopolis event on Friday, Dec. 7, from 6:30 p.m. until midnight, as part of Concord's Midnight Merriment. More than two dozen regional artisans and fine artists will show their work for sale at 7 Eagle Square, next door to the Museum of New Hampshire History. Here, you'll find handmade jewelry, vibrant traditional watercolors, eclectic, sock-monsters, pysanky, Shaker boxes, decoupage and upcycled ornaments, chunky modern paintings, vibrant functional pottery, leather handbags and bicycle part jewelry. Attend this free event and you may catch glimpse of Santa Claus. Visit granitestateartmarket.com.

• **New Hampshire Creative Club annual holiday party:** It's next week, on Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 5 p.m., at Studio 141, 141 Canal St., Mill 4, Nashua. This celebration is a break from NHCC's traditional programming, offering live music, food and networking, with participating members from all creative arts industries, including fine art, photography, design and web support. Admission is \$25; contact nhcreativeclub.org to RSVP.

—Kelly Sennott

GOOD NEIGHBOR SERIES

Sharon Arts Center is hosting a series of cultural programs at its Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, 924-7676, sharonarts.org. Series will feature presentations by professional artists on the first and third Saturdays of the month, 7-9:30 p.m.

• **PICKER ART GALLERY** will host an open studio/meet the artists day on the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Picker Building, 99 Factory St. Extension, Nashua, 305-6256.

• **THE PISCATAQUA DECORATIVE ARTS SOCIETY** presents its 10th season of lectures and events. Visit pdasociety.org.

• **ZIMMERMAN HOUSE** open for public tours, leaving from the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org). Offered twice daily. Reservations required. Cost is \$8-\$20.

Exhibit openings

• **"NOT FAR FROM THE SOURCE"** by artists David Fullam and Lane Williamson at the Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth, 431-4230) on display from Dec. 7 through Dec. 28. Artists' Reception on Fri., Dec. 7, 5-7 p.m. Call 431-4230 or visit nhartassociation.org.

• **HOLIDAY SMALL WORKS SHOW** through Feb. 4 at Lucy's Art Emporium, 303 Central Ave., Dover, with 12 local artists displaying small scale artwork. Opening reception Fri., Dec. 7, 5-7 p.m. Free. Visit lucysartemporium.com.

• **"HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS"** exhibition at Frisella Fine Art Studio (26 Old Manchester Road, Candia, frisellafineart.com). On view through Dec. 29. Artist Demonstration on Sat., Dec. 8, 2-6 p.m.

• **TERRI ELLEN** shows "The Magic of Reflected Light" at Seacoast Artist Association gal-

lery, 225 Water St., Exeter, during December and January. Artist reception on Sat., Dec. 8, noon to 3 p.m., at the gallery.

In the galleries

• **ALHAN IRWIN** shows her biology- and Middle Eastern-inspired art at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) through December during regular library hours.

• **ALL PI-ED UP: EXPERIMENTS IN LETTERPRESS BROADSIDES** exhibit at Sharon Arts Center, 30 Grove St., Sharon, on display Dec. 7 through Jan. 21. Opening reception on Fri., Dec. 7, 5-7 p.m. Call 924-7676, visit sharonarts.org.

• **ANNICK BOUVRON-GROMEK** exhibit runs through November at the Seacoast Artist Association gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Call 583-5293 or visit seacoastartist.org.

• **AUDREY GOLDSTEIN** shows "Issues of Trust" exhibit at the Southern New Hampshire

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SOMETHING OLD, MADE NEW



How do you give *It's a Wonderful Life* a new flavor? Co-directors Marguerite Mathews and Greg Gathers do it by telling the story of George Bailey through puppets. They'll perform an original, two-person staging of *A Child's Christmas in Wales* and a condensed version of *It's a Wonderful Life* this holiday season, on Friday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 15, at 4 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m., at Pontine's West End Studio, pontine.org. Visit info@pontine.org or call 436-6660. In addition, audiences can enjoy live holiday music by popular Seacoast musicians, including Mike Dunbar and Meredith Eib. Tickets are \$24 and may be purchased in advanced or online at pontine.org.

University McIninch Art Gallery (2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 629-4622, snhu.edu/art) through Dec. 15.

• **BOB JANULES** is the artist of the month at the Nashua Area Artists Association for December, and his work will be displayed in the mayor's office until Dec. 31.

• **BIG GIFTS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES** on display at the The Gallery (225 Water St., Exeter, 778-8856, gallery@seacoastartist.org) through December.

• **"BREAKING THE MOLD"** at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515, featuring work by Shandra McLane and Susan Wahlrab, through Dec. 14. Visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **CHESS ART EXHIBIT** with chess art by award-winning artist Cliff Gillis on display at Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. On display until Dec. 14.

• **COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE FINE ARTS FACULTY EXHIBIT** new works in diverse media exhibition through Dec. 14 at Colby-Sawyer, 541 Main St., New London, 526-3000. Drawing, ceramics, graphic design, new media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture.

• **"DISASTERS OF WAR"** etchings by Francisco Jose de Goya Lucientes at the Karl Drerup Art Gallery, Plymouth State University, through Dec. 14.

• **ERIC SANFORD, PHOTOGRAPHER** exhibit at the Discover Gallery in the Millyard Museum (200 Bedford St., Manchester) is on view through Dec. Hours are Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

• **FENTON ART GLASS EXHIBIT** on display at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua, on display through January. Hosted by the Nashua Historical Society, loaned by society member Peter Vincent. Call 883-0015.

• **"GLIMMER OF LIGHT"** landscape painting by Lauren Sansaricq on view through Dec. 6 at Chapel Art Center (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7470).

• **"IT'S ALL ABOUT CLAY"** exhibit at Mill Brook Gallery and Sculpture Garden (236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, themillbrookgallery.com) through Dec. 24. Call 226-2046.

• **JENNY PAGE** showcases her artwork and figurative drawings at Gateway Gallery at Great Bay Community College (320 Corporate Drive, Portsmouth) through Jan. 18.

• **JOSEPH BLAJDA** of Manchester shows his work at the Karl Drerup Art Gallery of Plymouth State University (17 High St., Plymouth, 535-5000) until Dec. 14.

• **KEYES ART GROUP HOLIDAY SHOW** at the Frame Depot and Gallery, 227 Union Square, Milford, 6-8 p.m. Work on display

until Dec. 24. Paintings, mixed media, sketches, prints, greeting cards and more.

• **KIM BERNARD** shows "In Motion" at Discover Portsmouth, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth, through Dec. 31. Call 436-8433.

• **LIZZ VAN SAUN** shows Community Mosaic Projects at Dos Amigos (26 N. Main St., Concord) through December.

• **LISA REGOPOULOS** shows "An Eclectic Compilation" at the Epsom Public Library (1606 Dover Road, Epsom) through Dec. 15. Call 736-9681 or visit epsomlibrary.com.

• **"NATURE AT YOUR DOORSTEP"** exhibit at Amherst Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, throughout November. Featuring nature photography by Sherie Dowsett. Call 672-1700.

• **"NEW HAMPSHIRE AND THE AMERICAN STUDIO CRAFT MOVEMENT"** exhibit open through Dec. 30 at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org.

• **NOAH FOURNIER** photography exhibit "The Roxbury Project" in the Daniels Room at Hancock Town Library (25 Main St., Hancock, 525-4411) through Dec. 27.

• **PAINTINGS AND PUPPETS** with Teresa Moler at the RE/MAX Properties Gallery, 2 Ash St., Hollis, through November.

• **PETERBOROUGH ARTIST COLONY EXHIBIT** opens at the Sharon Arts Center Gallery, 30 Grove St. Peterborough through Jan. 7. Call 924-7676, visit sharonarts.org.

• **"PET PORTRAITS"** by Gertie McGlinchey at Gilmanton Year-Round Library (NH Route 140, opposite Gilmanton School) will be up for viewing through Dec. Call 364-2400 or email gyrla@metrocast.net.

• **"POINTS OF VIEW"** exhibit opens at Art 3 Gallery (44 W. Brook St., Manchester, 668-6650), through Jan. 25.

• **PRINTMAKING IN THE AGE OF REMBRANDT** at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) until Jan. 6.

• **STACEY LUCAS** or "Veggie Art Girl" shows "Trash to Treasure" at The Studio, 50 Canal St., Laconia, through the holiday season. Call 455-9009 or visit thestu-dionh.com or veggieartgirl.com.

• **THE ROAD NOT TAKEN** fine art exhibit on display at Southern New Hampshire University's Pantano Gallery (2500 N. River Road, Manchester) through Dec. 28. Call 644-3120, visit snhu.edu.

• **TOYS EXHIBIT** at Gallery 6 at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrensmuseum.org) Dec. 1 through March 1, featuring lively and colorful oil paintings by artist Anne Scheer. No admission fee required to view gallery only.

THEATER CURTAIN CALLS



• **SNHU Orchestra and Wind Ensemble under new director:** This weekend, visit the St. Joseph Cathedral (145 Lowell St., Manchester) on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., for a whole mass of music and community. The SNHU Orchestra and Wind Ensemble performs its holiday pops concert, the first under new conductor Bill Drury. Drury, who teaches instrumental conducting full time at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, will be accompanied by Wind Ensemble directors Dave Bresnahan and Rick Cook. Visitors can expect to hear some serious concert music (Felix Mendelssohn's "Symphony No. 5," Martin Mailman's "Liturgical Music for Band" and Rick Cook's "Symphony No. 2") and some fun holiday music. The orchestra and wind ensemble are community-based music ensembles, made up of SNHU students, SNHU faculty and staff, local music teachers, some advanced high school musicians and outside community members. This is a free event.

• **Caught in a weird romance:** Not Your Mom's Musical Theater announces auditions for *Weird Romance*, which comprises two "Twilight-Zone-esque" musicals

of speculative fiction, with music by Alan Menkin. The first musical, *The Girl Who Was Plugged In*, is about a homeless bag lady whose soul is transplanted into the body of a female android by a company that manufactures celebrities; the second, *Her Pilgrim Soul*, is about a scientist who researches holographic imaging and receives a visit from a mysterious "living" hologram. Auditions are on Monday, Dec. 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Dec. 11, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Callbacks (if needed) will be Wednesday, Dec. 12. No appointment is necessary to try out; auditioners are asked to prepare a short song or two short cuts in the style of the show, and to be prepared to read from the script. Visit notyourmomsmusicaltheater.com or email notyourmoms@gmail.com. The show is set to run March 15 through March 24.

• **Bach's Lunch Lecture and Concert series starts:** Free, informal lunch-hour lectures and musicians will be checking in at the Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196, ext. 21) again this winter, 12:10 to 12:50 p.m., starting with David Pook, who will present "Christmas Chestnuts: A History of Holiday Hit Tunes," Thursday, Dec. 6. On the following Thursday, Dec. 13, take a lunch break to hear Jane Berlin Pauley, Peggo Horstmann Hodes and Hannah Murray, who will perform together as Trillium. They'll present "A Chorus of Hallelujahs: Seasonal Selections and Sing-Along." Call 228-1196 or visit ccmusicsschool.org

Correction: In last week's Curtain Calls, we listed incorrect dates for Disney on Ice's performances in Manchester. The show will run Jan. 30 through Feb. 3, and tickets start at \$26. Kids get 50 percent off on Wednesday night for applicable seats. Call 800-745-3000.

• **ART IN THE MILL** rotating exhibit of artwork in the UNH Manchester library (400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, manchester.unh.edu/campuslife/public-programs/art-mill) presents photographs from Greece and Turkey by NH Institute of Art graduate Elizabeth Ellenwood. Free.

• **NEW RETROSPECTIVE WORKS** by Roger Croteau at Hatfield Gallery, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 627-7560. Open Tues., Thurs. and Fri., 9:30 a.m.

• **THE WINTER GALLERY** exhibit at The Gallery (225 Water St., Exeter, 778-8856, gallery@seacoastartist.org) features work by the Seacoast Artist Association displaying wintery works of art. On display through the first week of January.

• **WINCHESTER ART** by Harriet Winchester, Liz Winchester-

Larson and Stephen Winchester showcase their work at the Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst) from December through mid-January.

Classes/workshops/demonstrations

• **ART CENTER WORKSHOP: ENGRAVING** on Sat., Dec. 8, 1-4 p.m., at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Cost is \$120. Call 669-7194 or visit currier.org.

• **WEEKEND WORKSHOP: PRECISE METAL CLAY PENDANTS WITH RITVALIISA OJANEN** Sat., Dec. 8, through Sun., Dec. 9, with Ritvaliisa Ojanen, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Sharon Arts School of Art & Craft, 457 Route 123, Sharon, 924-7256, sharonarts.org. Call for tuition.

• **FUN WITH WIRE** with Joy Raskin on Sun., Dec. 9, 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m., at Sharon Arts School of Art & Craft, 457 Route 123, Sharon, 924-7256, sharonarts.org, register@sharonarts.org. Call for tuition.

• **CROSSOVER FUSED GLASS** workshop at the Currier Museum Art Center (150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org, 669-6144, ext. 122) on Sat., Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to noon.

• **MATT CUTTING** workshop on Sat., Dec. 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Currier Museum Art Center (150 Ash St., Manchester). Mat cutters and supplies provided. Tuition \$120. Visit currier.org, call 669-6144, ext. 122.

• **ONE-DAY TEEN WORKSHOP: DIGITAL PAINTING** on Sat., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Sharon Arts School of Art & Craft, 457 Route 123, Sharon, 924-7256, sharonarts.org, register@sharonarts.org. Call for tuition.

SYMPHONY AND SING-ALONGS



Symphony NH and the Symphony NH chorus are teaming up again for their family-friendly Holiday Pops concert on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m., in the Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Here you'll find songs that will please kids and adults, from "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and "Babes in Toyland" to the "White Christmas" and "O, Holy Night." The big guy in the red suit is set to make an appearance, as are some holiday sing-alongs, secular and sacred. Tickets range in price, \$12 to \$48 (discounts for students, seniors and groups of 10 or more). They're available at the door or by calling 595-9156.

THEATER LISTINGS

• **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** at the Leddy Center (38 Ladds Lane, Epping, 679-2781). Performances Fri., Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16-\$18. Visit leddycenter.org.

• **LAS POSADAS** by Alchemists' Workshop (alchemistsworkshop.org) on Fri., Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., at Kearsage Community Presbyterian Church, New London (82 King Hill Road); Sat., Dec. 8, at 5 p.m., at Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Weare (118 Center Road, Weare); Sun., Dec. 9, at 4 p.m., at First Congregational Church, Lebanon; Sat., Dec. 15, at 4 p.m., at Henniker Congregational Church in Henniker (43 Maple St., Henniker); on Sat., Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., at Hillsboro United Methodist Church, Hillsborough (16 Henniker St.); and on Sat., Dec. 22, noon to 2 p.m., at Red River Theatres in Concord (11 S. Main St.).

• **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588) Nov. 30-Dec. 23. Call for showtimes. Tickets are \$15-\$45, palacetheatre.org.

• **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** shows at Merrimack Public Library (470 DW Highway, Merrimack, 424-5021) on Wed., Dec. 5, at 7 p.m., presented by Pontine Theatre. Two-person condensed version with shadow puppets, bunraku-style puppets and masks. Visit merrimack.lib.nh.us or call 424-5021. Reservation recommended.

• **EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD** on Thurs., Dec. 6,

at 7:30 p.m., at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111). Tickets are \$15, ccanh.com. The group will also perform on Fri., Dec. 7, at 8 p.m., at The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org), where tickets are \$21.75.

• **AS YOU LIKE IT** at Nashua North Auditorium (10 Chuck Druding Drive, Nashua) on Thurs., Dec. 6, Fri., Dec. 7, and Sat., Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. Tickets \$5 at the door.

• **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** at the Amato Center (56 Mont Vernon St., Milford) on Fri., Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 8, at 2 & 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$12.

• **THE NUTCRACKER: ACT II** performed by St. Paul's School Ballet Company performs on Fri., Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall, St. Paul's School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, 229-5626. Admission is free. Visit sps.edu/dance.

• **THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI** presented by Majestic Theatre on Fri., Dec. 7, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 9, at 1 p.m., at the Chateau Event Center (201 Hanover St., Manchester, 627-2677). The \$32-\$35 ticket includes a dinner along with the show. Order tickets by calling 669-7469 or by emailing majestictheatre.net.

• **HOLIDAY HILARITY** with Frost Heaves on Fri., Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 9, at 2 p.m.; and Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m., at the Peterborough Players Theatre (55 Hadley Road, Peterbor-

ough). Tickets are \$15 for general admission, available at the Toadstool and Steele's in Peterborough. Call 525-3391 or visit frotheaves.com.

• **AN UNEXPECTED GIFT** Christmas play on Sat., Dec. 8, at 2 and 6 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 9, at 4 p.m. at the Derry Memorial Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry; and on Sat., Dec. 15, at 2 and 6 p.m., at the Amato Center for the Performing Arts, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Tickets are \$10, and can be purchased at lifelinedrama.com.

• **DICKENS' OF A CHRISTMAS** at the Old Salt Restaurant, Lafayette Road, Hampton, on Wed., Dec. 5, at 6 p.m.; Wed., Dec. 12, at 6 p.m.; and Thurs., Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. Dinner and show. Tickets are \$39.99 per person. Reserve by calling the Old Salt Restaurant, 926-0330.

• **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE AND A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES** with Pontine Theatre on Fri., Dec. 14, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 16, at 2 p.m., at West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, 436-6660. Tickets are \$24. Visit pontine.org.

• **THE NUTCRACKER** at the Concord Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord) on Fri., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., featuring the New Hampshire School of Ballet, directed by Jennifer Reinert. Tickets are \$15 at Gibson's Bookstore and at the door; Visit nhschoolofballet.com or call 668-5330.

• **THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS** features more than 100 young performers from all over New Hampshire on Sat., Dec. 15, at 1 & 4 p.m., at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord, ccanh.com, 225-1111). The holiday show features performers from Eastern Ballet Institute and live music by the Concord Community Music School's Purple Finches Children's Chorus and the Cabbageheads. Tickets are \$12.50 for students and seniors, \$16.50 for adults.

• **ONE QUIET NIGHT** is a Christmas musical presented at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, 14 Mammoth Road, Hooksett, on Sun., Dec. 16, at 6 p.m. Admission free. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres served following program. Call 668-6473 or visit emmanuelbaptistchurch.com.

• **AN 1836 PORTSMOUTH NUTCRACKER** at The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org). Full-length performances (\$30.50-\$41.50) are on Fri., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 15, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 16, at 2:30 p.m. Nutcracker in a Nutshell (\$25.50-\$30.50) performances are on Sat., Dec. 15, at 10 a.m. and Sun., Dec. 16, at 11:30 a.m. Call 433-3100.

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• **THE RAGPICKER'S DREAM** at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, on Sun., Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., and Mon., Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$18. Visit themusic-hall.org.

• **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** at Pontine West End Studio (959 Islington St., Portsmouth, pontine.org, 436-6660) on Fri., Dec. 14, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 15, at 4 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$24.

• **HOLIDAY MAGIC** at the Claremont Opera House (58 Opera House Square, Claremont) on Sun., Dec. 16, at 1 p.m., welcomes back NH School of Ballet and cast of 50 as they present *The Nutcracker* Suite. Call 542-4433 or visit claremontoperahouse.org for ticket information.

• **THE NUTCRACKER** by Ballet Misha on Sat., Dec. 15, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 16, at 1 p.m., at the Dana Center at Saint Anselm's College (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Tickets \$18 in advance at 84 Myrtle St., Manchester, or at showclix.com/search#misha. Tickets \$20 at the door on the day of performance.

• **THE NUTCRACKER** by Sole City Dance, on Fri., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the Rochester Opera House (31 Wakefield St., Rochester). Tickets \$24 for adults, \$20 for children and seniors. Call 335-1992 or visit rochesteroperahouse.com.

• **THE NUTCRACKER** at Keefe Auditorium (Elm St., Nashua) by the Northern Ballet Theatre of Nashua on Sat., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$18-\$22; call 889-8408 or visit nbtdc.com.

• **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** at the Rochester Opera House (31 Wakefield St., Rochester) on Thurs, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 22, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 23, at 2 p.m. Reserve tickets at rochesteroperahouse.org or call 355-1992. Tickets \$14-\$16.

• **AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS** by Just Love to Sing on Fri., Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the Franklin Opera House, 316 Central St., Franklin. Tickets are \$15; call 934-1901 or visit just-lovetosing.com.

• **THE NUTCRACKER** on Fri., Dec. 21, at 7 p.m., celebrating the 30th annual performance of *The Nutcracker*, at the Concord Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord) directed by Lisa Drouin Goff. Tickets are \$15 at the UPS Store, 75 S. Main St., Concord, and at the door; Call 485-8710.

• **AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS** on Sat., Dec. 22, at 7 p.m., with Christopher Martinez singing the role of Amahl and Jane Cormier as Mother in this Giancarlo Menotti operatic story.

This is a free event; call 781-5695 or visit justlovetosing.com.

Auditions/open calls

• **AUDITIONS** for Nashua Theatre Guild's Five Women Wearing the Same Dress on Thurs., Dec. 6, 6:30-8:45 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 8, 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., in the East Wing of Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua). Rehearsals start in January. Email mikewoodnh@comcast.net.

• **AUDITIONS** for Branch River Theatre's *Henceforward* by Allan Ayckbourn on Mon., Dec. 10, 7-9 p.m., and Wed., Dec. 12, 7-9 p.m., at the Community House of Marlborough, 160 Main St., Marlborough. Call 878-2670 or email trouperwa@comcast.net.

• **AUDITIONS** for NH premiere of *Weird Romance* on Mon., Dec. 10, and Tues., Dec. 11, 6:30-9:30 p.m., at Appletree Business Services, 15 Londonderry Road, Londonderry. Visit noty-ourmomsmusicaltheater.com or email notyourmoms@gmail.com.

• **AUDITIONS** for theatre KAPOW's spring productions, *The Illusion* and *Buried Child* are on Mon., Dec. 17, and Tues., Dec. 18, at Stockbridge Theatre (5 Pinkerton St., Derry). Schedule audition at tkapow.com/training.html.

• **STUDENT ONE-ACT PLAY-WRITING WORKSHOP** auditions Wed., Dec. 19, 6:30-9:30 p.m., ages 11-18, at the Amato Theater, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Performances Feb. 15 and Feb. 16. Email TobyTarnow@yahoo.com or call 465-3456.

• **CALL FOR SINGERS** for Rhythm of New Hampshire Show Chorus, seeking female singers to join a cappella barbershop singing. Visit a Thursday rehearsal 6:45-9:15 p.m. at Marion Gerish Community Center (35 W. Broadway, Derry), call 800-696-7351 or visit nhchorus.org.

Workshops/other

• **HOLIDAY HOME TOUR** on Sun., Dec. 9, 3-6 p.m. Four decorated homes in Bedford open for viewing on a self-guided tour. Purchase tickets for \$25 in advance or \$30 the day of the event. Begin at Ira Lexus of Manchester, 18 Kilton Road, Bedford. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

• **TEEN VIDEO CHALLENGE** at the Goffstown Library (2 High St., Goffstown), postmark due by Feb. 4. Teens are invited to create a 30- to 90-second video promoting the Summer Reading program, including an interpretation of the 2013 teen slogan, "Beneath the Surface." Winners get \$275. Call 497-2102 or email denises@goffstownlibrary.com.

• **NYC TRIP** hosted by the Palace Theatre, Sat., Jan. 12, through Mon., Jan. 14. Bus ride to and from NYC, hotel stay for two

CLASSICAL MUSIC

An angelic medley

Nashua Flute Choir gears up for its annual Christmas concert

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

The sweet sound you'll hear at the Nashua Flute Choir's "Holiday Medley" concert this Sunday, Dec. 9, is a blend of six flute-family instruments: the piccolo, the E-flat flute, the C flute, the alto flute, bass flute and, uniquely, the giant contrabass flute.

The flutes harmonize to create a rich sound, perfect for the songs that this group of men and women will perform at this year's holiday concert. They'll play favorites like "Away in a Manger," "March of the Toys," a little bit of "Sleigh Ride" and "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," followed by a forever favorite, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

In entering its 30th season, the choir offers a range that you won't find in most flute groups; it's one of the only choirs in the Northeast with the contrabass flute, standing just over 6 feet tall.

This giant instrument, played by Claudia Bissett, Nashua Flute Choir librarian, provides a greater range for the choir.

"We always compare the flute family to the string instrument family," said Eileen Yarrison, the choir conductor. "A flute choir without a contrabass flute is kind of like a string orchestra without a bass section. It's a nice sound, but once we get the contrabass, the sound is more rich. We are able to play more pieces of music."

In between songs, Yarrison, who has been an educator for more than 30 years, likes to engage the audience by sharing fun facts, histories and context for the music, offering information about some of the Ukrainian pieces they'll play that might be a little unfamiliar to audiences.

The group practices every Sunday at the Nashua Community Music School, with musicians traveling from all over.

nights at the Paramount Times Square and ticket to Broadway show, *Disney's Newsies*, for \$525. Reserve spot by calling 668-5588 or emailing jaynastevens@palacetheatre.org.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS Concerts

• **COLORS OF THE WIND NH GAY MEN'S CHORUS CONCERT SERIES** performances are on Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.,



The Nashua Flute Choir. Courtesy photo.

"We sometimes call ourselves the 'one-hour flute choir.' So many of our members drive an hour — from Keene, from the Seacoast, from Beverly, Mass., to play here," said Linda True, founding member, president and CFO of the Nashua Flute Choir.

The group holds competitive tryouts, but because of the logistics of the instrument, the musicians are versatile. The way you play with your fingers is the same with each instrument.

"While you may have people who will play just one kind of flute in the concert, you'll also see people who play two or three. I think that one of the greatest things about these players is that people can play everything from the piccolo down," Yarrison said.

David Deifik plays the C flute. He's been a member since 1983, and for him, the group has offered a means to relax and have fun during hectic weeks working as a physician.

He retired from that profession last fall but isn't quite ready to give up the flute.

For Deifik, there are two important aspects that have kept him playing for nearly 30 years. One is the music.

beautiful, lively Irish Music of the Season. This is a free event.

• **YOUTH POPS CONCERT** featuring the New Hampshire Youth Ensembles Symphony Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble Sat., Dec. 8, at 7 p.m., at the Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St.. Tickets are \$30 per person. Call 644-4548. Benefits school's need-based Financial Aid Fund.

• **GRANITE STATESMEN**

Listen!

Where: Main St. United Methodist Church, 154 Main St., Nashua
When: Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m.
Admission: Donation requested; \$15 for adults, \$10 for students/seniors, \$5 for children. Tickets can be purchased at the door.
Visit: nashuaflutechoir.com
Contact: 888-1741

"As an avid flutist, being able to jam with all of those people who love music, too, is really great," he said. "There's the social aspect of playing. There's a really great group of people here. I find it extremely therapeutic, especially from having worked in a high-pressure profession."

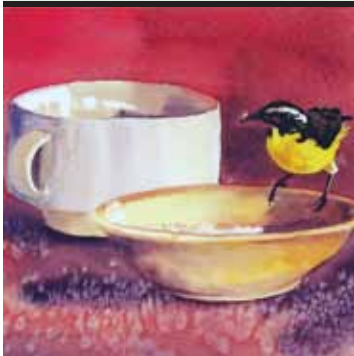
Yarrison also noted the camaraderie within the group; she felt comfortable with the flutists from day one. She also noted that this is a family-friendly show, and welcomes everyone to come and listen.

"From the musical point of view, if you love playing the flute, you'll love the sound of a whole bunch of flutes," Deifik said. 🍀

CHRISTMAS CABARET (granitestatesmen.org, membership@granitestatesmen.org) on Sat., Dec. 8, at 1 and 7:30 p.m., at St. Joseph's Church, 777 W. Hollis St., Nashua. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and students, \$3 for children for the afternoon show. Tickets for the evening show are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students, \$6 for children.

• **STUDENT CONCERT** fea-

SALAMANDER ART



It's hip to be square. You can find a small square of a 100-foot quilt of art at Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center (30 Ash St., Hollis, 465-WILD) this season. Artists from all over the state submitted art in all sorts of media in "square form." Much of the

art is 12 x 12 inches, all of which is priced less than \$100. Here you'll find sand paintings, collage art, small local oil paintings from Christopher Volpe and zentangle art from local artist Suzanne Binnie. The show runs through Jan. 31, and visitors can continue to check out the work during gallery hours, noon to 5 p.m. weekdays and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays in December. Visit wilsalamander.com.

turing works of Mozart, Bach, Schumann, violin, viola, cello, guitar and piano, on Sat., Dec. 8, at 10:30 a.m., at Southside Bible Church, 200 S. Jewett St., Manchester. Featuring students of Chris Cavanaugh, Suzuki Violin Studio. Call 668-7664.

• **HOLIDAY TEA AND CONCERT** on Sat., Dec. 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tea, coffee, hot cider, pastries, crafts for kids, and a sweater competition (best sweater outfit wins) and entertainment by Profile Chorus of Manchester.

• **"BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD"** concert at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com) on Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. The show is a collection of songs about Jesus, featuring singers/songwriters Jill Phillips, Andy Gullahorn, Ben Shive, Andrew Osenga and more. Tickets are \$22-\$47.

• **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION** on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m., at the Concord Audi (2 Prince St., Concord) presented by the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Brian Waldron will lead a cast of 40 choristers and a special Nativity Pageant. Tickets are \$10, available at the IHM Parish Rectory or by calling 856-3420.

• **MANCHESTER CHORAL SOCIETY** will carol at the Currier (150 Ash St., Manchester) on Sat., Dec. 8, at noon; performing at the NH For the Holidays Expo (300 Elm St., Manchester) on Sat., Dec. 8, at 2 p.m.; and singing at the St. Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell St., Manchester, on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 3 p.m., in "Christmas Tapestry: The Peace-Makers." Tickets are \$25.

• **AMHERST TOWN BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT** on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m. at the Amherst Congregational Church (11 Church St., Amherst) with

Amherst Town Band and selections from the Souhegan High School a cappella singers. Visit amhersttownband.org.

• **HOLIDAY POPS CONCERT** with the Granite State Symphony Orchestra on Sun., Dec. 9, at 3 p.m., at the Concord Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord, theaudi.org). Tickets are \$20 at Pompanoosuc Mills, gsso.org, and at the door. Call 226-4776.

• **BOSTON STRING QUARTET** performs "Christmas in Paris" on Sun., Dec. 9, at 2 p.m., at Nashua Pilgrim Church, 4 Watson St., Nashua. Under 18 free, \$20 to general public. Call 617-875-7851 or visit bostonstringquartet.com.

• **FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** candlelight service on SPS campus, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, on Sun., Dec. 9, at 5 p.m. Free.

• **SOUHEGAN VALLEY FALL CONCERT** is on Sun., Dec. 9, at 6 p.m., in the Souhegan High School (412 Boston Post Road, Amherst), with the theme "Christmas Around the World."

• **NASHUA FLUTE CHOIR** performs holiday concert on Sun., Dec. 9, at the Main St. United Methodist Church, 154 Main St., Nashua, at 3 p.m. Featuring international carols from Spain, England and Ukraine.

• **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** to benefit the Santa Fund on Sun., Dec. 9, at 4 p.m., at The First Congregational Church, at the corner of Hanover and Union St., in Manchester. Visit fcmmanchesternh.org or call 625-5093.

• **HOLIDAY MUSIC WITH HARPIS LISA WASHINGTON CALVO** on Thurs., Dec. 13, 1:30-3:30 p.m., at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550).

• **TRILLIUM** holiday sing along preceded by a selection of a cappella offerings on Thurs., Dec.

13, at at Concord Community Music School Recital Hall, 23 Wall St., Concord, 12:10-12:50 p.m. Free. Call 228-1196 or visit cemusicschool.org.

• **ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS** with St. Joseph Cathedral Chamber Singers at St. Joseph Cathedral (145 Lowell St., Manchester) on Fri., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. Free will offering. Call 622-6404 or email EBermani@stjosephcathedralnh.org.

• **ED GERHARD** presents a Christmas guitar concert on Fri., Dec. 14, and Sat., Dec. 15, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 advanced, \$28 at the door. Call 664-7200 or visit virtuarecords.com.

• **CHRISTMAS TAPESTRY** concert with performances by Manchester Choral Society and Nashua High School South and 2G MCS youth chorus on Sat., Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 16, at 3 p.m., at St. Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell St., Manchester. Tickets \$20. Visit mcshn.org or call 472-6627.

• **BROOKSIDE CHRISTMAS CONCERT** on Sat., Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at Brookside Congregational Church, 2013 Elm St., Manchester, brooksidecc.org, 669-2807. Free. Bring goods and/or non perishables, to be delivered to New Horizons for New Hampshire.

• **WOMEN SINGING OUT! GALA TABLESIDE CONCERT** on Sat., Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., at 7 Front St., Exeter. Visit womensingingout.org. Suggested \$25 donation, includes desserts and beverages.

• **SYMPHONY NH HOLIDAY POPS CONCERT** is on Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m., at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium (117 Elm St., Nashua). From "Sleigh Ride" to "White Christmas" to "Home Alone," the new auditorium allows you to enjoy the music of the holidays better than ever. Tickets are \$12-\$48. Visit symphonynh.org.

• **COMMUNITY SINGERS HOLIDAY CONCERT** on Sun., Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., at St. George's Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 650 Hanover St., Manchester. Free admission.

• **HOLIDAY CONCERT** at the Nashua Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) on Sun., Dec. 16, at 2 p.m., featuring flutist Aubrie Dionne and harpist Piper Runnion-Bareford. This free concert is open to the public. Visit nashualibrary.org/directions.htm or call 589-4610.

• **HOLIDAY MAGIC CONCERT** at the Nashua Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) on Sun., Dec. 16, at 2 p.m., with flutist Aubrie Dionne and harpist Piper Runnion-Bareford. Free. Visit nashualibrary.org.

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listings@hippopress.com at

least three weeks before

the event.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE Stories for the season

Indian museum continues winter tradition

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

Though the stories have been passed down through generations, the illustrations are never the same. Rick and Carolyn Hunt have been performing as The Laughing Couple for about five years, providing a twist on traditional Native American storytelling.

The Laughing Couple will return to the Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum for its annual Winter Celebration on Saturday, Dec. 8.

"The stories are the things that connect history and help children understand the place of the Abenaki people in their world view," museum curator Nancy Jo Chabot said.

As Carolyn Hunt tells the stories, Rick Hunt illustrates them behind her. Lynn Clark, the director of the museum, said the drawings are the size of a mural; illustrations from a previous performance by The Laughing Couple are still on display at the museum.

Carolyn Hunt said that the couple draws from an extensive repertoire of native stories, but even if they tell the same story twice, Rick always finds different ways to depict it visually.

"I can tell the story 10 times and he can draw a different picture," she said. "You can always draw the

same character, but that's not what we do. My husband is amazingly fast with his pens and markers."

The Laughing Couple has performed throughout most of New England, and Carolyn Hunt said they can tailor the topics of their stories to fit the audience. Keeping with the tradition of Native American storytelling, the Hunts always work in a theme to their performances. Hunt said those themes can range from the importance of friendship, the effects of bullying and even how people now relate to each other through social media.

"In native culture, the stories were the school," she said. "And there is usually more than one lesson per story."

Though the stories will take center stage, Clark said visitors will have plenty of other activities available throughout the day. A craft station will be available for kids to create a corn husk doll and learn feather wrapping.

At 1:30 p.m., Clark said Lynn Clowes, a local herbalist will also be on hand to tell stories of how Native Americans used herbs for health reasons.

Traditional Native American games will also be occurring during the event, and Clark said visitors will be able to explore the 12 acres



Carolyn Hunt tells a story in at the Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum. Courtesy photo.

of land the museum sits on. For an even more authentic Native American experience, visitors can try some traditional foods including succotash that Clark said will be cooked using beans from the museum's own garden.

"The tipi is up and we have lots of grounds so active kids who are coming will have plenty to keep themselves occupied," Clark said.

Chabot said that games were an essential part of any gathering that Abenaki children were involved in and kids visiting the museum for the winter celebration will receive an authentic Abenaki experience.

"We have people who are organizing this particular celebration that drew from Northeastern games that would be played," she said.

The Winter Celebration coincides with the holiday shopping tour that will be occurring throughout the town of Warner, and Clark

Winter Celebration

Where: Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum, 18 Highlawn Road, Warner

When: Saturday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Admission: \$5, with the fee waived for those who become members. Call 456-2600 or visit www.indianmuseum.org.

said the museum will also feature holiday shopping with a sale in the gift shop.

But Clark said the biggest tie-in to traditional Native American culture will be taking a break and sitting down with the family to start the season with some stories.

"You're not tending to the crops at that point in the year, and it's a good time to gather around with the family and hear stories," she said.



CHILDREN & TEENS Events

• **HOLIDAY STORY-TIME AND CRAFT** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua), Thurs., Dec. 6, at 1 p.m., for ages 2 through 5 and at 4 p.m., for ages 6-10. Visit the library for stories, a puppet show and a holiday craft. Call 589-4600.

• **MOVIE NIGHT** at Kelley Library (234 Main St., Salem) Thurs., Dec. 6, at 6:30 p.m. Visit the library for a showing of *A Christmas Carol*. Admission is free. Call 898-7064 or visit www.kelleylibrary.org.

• **POLAR EXPRESS STORY TIME** at all New Hampshire Barnes & Noble locations (1741 S. Willow St., Manchester; 235 DW Hwy., Nashua; 45 Gosling Road, Newington; and 125 S. Broadway, Salem) Fri., Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. Come for

a reading of the story and activities. Admission is free. Visit www.bn.com.

• **GO WILD WITH CRAFTS** at Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness), Sat., Dec. 8, 10-11:30 a.m. For ages 4 and older. Turn items from nature into a craft. Admission is \$9 per child. Call 968-7194 or visit www.nhnature.org.

• **WINTER CELEBRATION** at Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum (18 Highlawn Road, Warner) Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit the museum for a full day of Native American stories, art, games and music. Admission is \$5. Call 456-2600 or visit www.indianmuseum.org.

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** at the Chester Municipal Building (84 Chester St., Chester) Sat.,

Dec. 8, 8 a.m.-noon. Visit the library for breakfast and photos with Santa. Admission is \$6 with a \$25 maximum for a family of six. Call 887-3404 or visit www.chesterlibrary.com.

• **SANTA IN THE PARK** at Greeley Park Gazebo in Nashua, Sun., Dec. 9, noon-2 p.m. Come for photos and gifts for a select number of children. Admission is free. Call 589-3370.

• **ROALD DAHL JEOPARDY** at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford), Mon., Dec. 10, 6-7:30 p.m. Get caught up on your Dahl knowledge ahead of time and then visit the library to put your skills to the test. For grades 2-5. Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.

• **TEEN LIBRARY FRIENDS** at Kelley Library (234 Main St., Salem) Mon., Dec. 10, at

2:30 p.m. For ages 11 and up, help out with volunteer activities at the library. Call 898-7064.

• **POLAR EXPRESS READING** at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) Mon., Dec. 10, 10-11 a.m. Come for a reading of the story and crafts, music and games. Call 624-6550, ext. 328, or visit www.manchester.lib.nh.us.

• **HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD** at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) Tues., Dec. 11, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Learn about holiday traditions celebrated by cultures throughout the world. Call 624-6550 or visit www.manchester.lib.nh.us.

• **DECORATIVE BIRDHOUSE** at Kelley Library (234 Main St., Salem) Wed., Dec. 12, at 6:30

p.m. For ages 6-10 and families, visit the library to create a birdhouse holiday ornament. Registration is required. Call 898-7064.

• **HOBBIT PARTY** at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford), Thurs., Dec. 13, 3-4 p.m. Enjoy a traditional Hobbit breakfast, learn how to write your name in Elvish and try some hobbit games. For grades 6-12. Registration is requested. Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.

• **ART AFTERNOON** at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford) Fri., Dec. 14, 3:30-4:30 p.m. For grades 2-5, study the styles of a famous painter and then make your own creation in that style. Call 673-2408.

• **CHRISTMAS MOVIE MARATHON** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194

Derry Road, Hudson) Sat., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Visit the library for family holiday movies throughout the day. Call 886-6030.

• **SANTA LIVE** at The Londonderry Access Center (281 Mammoth Road, Londonderry) Sat., Dec. 15, 1-3 p.m. Kids are welcome to visit the center and tell Santa what they want for Christmas live on CTV-20. Admission is free. Call 432-1147.

• **SANTA VISIT** at Van Otis Chocolates (341 Elm St., Manchester) Sun., Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Face painting and crafts will also be available. Call 627-1611 or visit www.vanotischocolates.com.

• **GINGERBREAD HOUSE COOKIE DECORATION** at the Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith) Tues., Dec. 18, 4-5 p.m. Visit the

MERRY IN CONCORD



Downtown Concord will host Midnight Merriment on Friday, Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m. Main Street will be decorated for the holidays and local businesses and organizations will be hosting events. For the second year in a row, the Concord Arts Market will host Winter Giftopolis, which will feature the work of local artists and artists at 7 Eagle Square. Admission is free, and kids will be able to have their photos taken with Santa. Visit www.intownconcord.org. Pictured: items from the Winter Giftopolis. Courtesy photo.

library to decorate a holiday treat. Call 279-4303 or visit www.meredithlibrary.org.

• **WOODEN ORNAMENTS** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Sq., Hollis) Wed., Dec. 19, at 4 p.m. For children in kindergarten and up. All materials will be provided to create your own wooden ornament. Registration is required. Call 465-7721 or visit www.hollislibrary.org.

• **GLASS ORNAMENTS** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Sq., Hollis) Thurs., Dec. 20, at 4 p.m. For children in grades 3-6. All materials will be provided to create your own glass ornament. Registration is required. Call 465-7721 or visit www.hollislibrary.org.

• **CRAZY CARDS** at Kelley Library (234 Main St., Salem) Thurs., Dec. 20, at 3:30 p.m. For grades 2-5, visit the library and create your own greeting card. Registration is required. Call 898-7064.

• **HOLIDAY TEA PARTY** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Sq., Hollis) Fri., Dec. 21, at 11:45 a.m. For ages 2-5, visit the library for cookies, juice and stories. Register by calling 465-7721 or visiting www.hollislibrary.org.

• **SANTA'S BIG PARTY** at Charmingfare Farm (774 High St., Candia) each Saturday and Sunday through Sun., Dec. 23. Take a 30-minute horse-drawn wagon ride to Santa's party location and spend some time with Santa. Admission is \$17. Advance purchase is recommended. Call 483-5623 or visit www.visitthefarm.com.

Contests/scholarships

Music

• **BORDELEAU KEYBOARDING STUDIOS** (48 Maple Drive, Bedford, 472-5566) offers piano, keyboard and organ les-

sons for children beginning at 6 years old.

• **CONCORD COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL** (23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196, cemusic-school.org) offers classes in most musical instruments and voice along with ensemble coaching and music therapy. There are also music and movement classes for children ages 6 months to 6 years. The fall session includes Take Three (ages 4-6), Concord Community Singers (all ages; no auditions necessary), Music & Movement (up to age 6) and the Purple Finches chorus (grades K-8).

• **LEDDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS** (38 Ladd's Lane, Epping, leddycenter.org, 679-2781) offers private lessons in guitar, bass, piano, voice and woodwind.

• **THE LIDMAN MUSIC SCHOOL** (419 Amherst St., Nashua, 882-5456, lidmanmusic.com) offers private instruction in the violin, viola and piano. Weekly 30-minute lessons are \$95 per month, weekly 45-minute lessons are \$140 per month and weekly hour lessons are \$185 per month. Parents are encouraged to attend lessons.

• **THE LITTLE PRIVATE MUSIC SCHOOL** (1 Bryce Drive, Merrimack, 424-4116, tlpmusicschool.com) offers all private lessons. Presence of a parent is required for all students age 9 or younger. Performance classes are scheduled once a month on Sunday at 4 p.m. Tuition is \$130 per month.

• **MANCHESTER MUSIC MILL** (377 Elm St., Manchester, 606-4447, manchestermusicmill.com) offers private, semi-private and clinic lessons in drum set, percussion, guitar (acoustic and electric), bass guitar, woodwind and brass instruments. Cost is \$20 half-hour lesson. No regis-

tration fees or long-term commitments.

• **MAVRO MUSIC SCHOOL** (15 Olde Towne Road, Auburn, 483-5779) offers lessons in guitar, piano, drums and electric bass. One-hour lessons are \$20.

• **MIDDLE MUSIC ACADEMY** Middle NH Arts and Entertainment Center, 316 Central St., Franklin, various children's music classes. Call 934-1901.

• **MUSIC AND MOVEMENT** at Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord). Visit www.ccmusicschool.org for dates, times and registration.

• **MUSIC AND MOVEMENT** at Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), Thursdays at 10 a.m. For ages up to 6, come for singing, stories and musical instruments. Call 654-2581 or visit www.wiltonlibrarynh.org.

• **MUSIC FOR INFANTS** at Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center (30 Ash St., Hollis). Register for classes online at www.wildsalamander.com. Classes include Listen Like Learn Music, Your Baby Needs Music, Baby Muga, Pajama Muga for Walking Toddlers and acoustic guitar lessons for ages 8-adult. Call 465-9453 or visit www.wildsalamander.com.

• **MUSIC THERAPY** at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord, for children with learning and developmental disabilities. Offered in individual and group formats. Call the school at 228-1196 to schedule a consultation.

• **MUSIC TOGETHER** in Nashua, Manchester, Bedford, Merrimack, Amherst. Infants through kindergartners with parents or caregivers in mixed-age classes, 10-week sessions. Visit a class; call director Amy Conley, 249-9560, musictogether.com.

• **MUSICAL BRIDGE PROGRAM** at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord, for ages 5-8, in recorder, and strings. Call the school at 228-1196 or visit cemusicschool.org.

• **MUSIK GARTEN** at Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m. For parents and babies to participate together, learn different ways to involve music in playtime.

• **NH SCHOOL OF THE SCOTTISH ARTS** (922 Elm St., Manchester, nhssa.org; 621-9949) offers private and group classes in piping, drumming, fiddle and penny whistle. Call for schedule.

• **PURPLE FINCHES CHORUS** at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord, for children in grades K-8. Open to the public. Call 228-1196 or visit cemusicschool.org.

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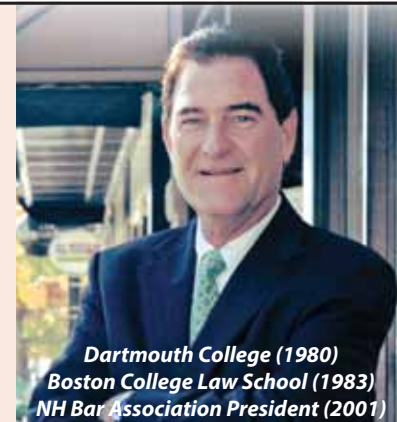
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WORK an initiative to make music more available and affordable to greater Manchester youth. For Putting Music to Work sponsorship opportunities, call 644-4548 or visit mcmusicschool.org.

- **PRIVATE AT-HOME LESSONS** with Melissa Blasek, a professional musician and vocalist and graduate of the Berklee School of Music. There are private vocal, piano and guitar instructions tailored to the students. Contact Blasek at 401-2542 or melissa.bl@hotmail.com. See melissablasek.net.
- **SUZUKI VIOLIN PROGRAM** at Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord). For children 4 and older. No musical background required. Incorporates parent involvement. Call 228-1196 or visit www.ccmusicschool.org.
- **TAKE THREE** piano introduction at the Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord). For ages 4-6. Visit www.ccmusicschool.org or call 228-1196.
- **TED HERBERT'S MUSIC SCHOOL** (922 Elm St., Manchester, 669-9191, tedherbert.com) offers some group lessons, as well as private instruction in brass, drum, guitar, piano, string instruments, woodwinds and vocals.
- **TEEN MUSIC CLASSES** at Music Together of Milford, 102 Elm St., Milford, on Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Advanced beginners and intermediates welcome to acoustic music class led by Amy Conley. Adults also welcome. Call 249-9560 to register. Visit amyconleymusic.com.
- **UKE 'N PLAY FOR K'S** ukulele class with Amy Conley for kindergarten-age children and an adult. Classes offered Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in Nashua (4 Raymond St.), 2-2:45 p.m. in Milford (102 Elm St.), Fridays 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in Merrimack (501 DW Hwy.) and 2 p.m. in Milford (102 Elm St.). \$190 for ukulele, gigbag and tuner. \$115 if you have your own ukulele. Call 249-9560 or visit www.amyconleymusic.com.
- **UKULELE CHORUS** for grades 1-8 with Amy Conley. Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. in Milford (102 Elm St., Milford), Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. in Milford and Thursdays at 1:15 p.m. in Wilton (77 Pine Hill Drive, Wilton). Call 249-9560 or visit www.amyconleymusic.com.
- **VIOLIN & GUITAR** Suzuki Violin Studio (890 Valley St., Manchester, 668-SONG) offers violin, guitar, bass and viola lessons.
- **VIOLIN & PIANO** Student Centered Music Programs, Amherst. Susan Joy, violin and piano teacher plans for a youth symphony, string orchestra, and a preparatory string ensemble.

Rehearsals will be scheduled on Mondays in the Amherst area. Auditions for strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion are now being held by appointment. To arrange an audition, contact Susan Joy at 883-2466 or susan-joy.music@gmail.com.

- **WEST BROTHERS MUSIC** (Locations in Amherst, Londonderry or Tewksbury, Mass., 438-1903, westbrothersmusic.com) offers group lessons, as well as private lessons in piano, guitar, bass, drums, voice, bagpipe, penny whistle and recorder, along with classes in music theory, music history, improvisation, ear training and sight singing, and ensemble classes. The school also offers webcam classes regardless of location.

Ongoing activities

- **ABC AND ME** at Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith), Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m., or 1-2 p.m. For ages 3-5, learn songs, stories and crafts to help expand vocabulary. Call 279-4303.
- **ART CLASSES** will be held at the Kimball Jenkins Estate (266 N. Main St., Concord) throughout the spring for both children and adults. Call 225-3932 or visit kimballjenkins.com.
- **ARTSY SATURDAYS** at Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith), Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon. Create art and learn art concepts. Call 279-4303 or visit www.meredithlibrary.org.
- **AMERICAN GIRL CLUB** at Barnes & Noble, 1741 S. Willow St., Manchester, on the third Wed. of the month, 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Bring your American Girl doll. Call 668-0022.
- **BECK'S ART EXPRESS** offers children's art parties and art education at 6 Gaffney St., Nashua. Call 889-1670 or visit artsexpressnh.com.
- **CONCORD BOYS & GIRLS CLUB** (55 Bradley St., Concord, 224-1061, concordkids.org) offers after-school programs ages 6-18. There are also programs in Suncook and Hopkinton along with fall and winter basketball. Applications for after-school programs are on the website.
- **CRAFTERNOON** for grades 1 to 8 at Concord Public Library is held once monthly and features a different craft project each month.
- **CRAFT EXTRAVAGANZA** at Tucker Free Library (31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org) every Thursday at 3:15 p.m. for children in grades K-2.
- **CREATIVE CRAFT CLASSES** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) Thursdays at 4 p.m. For ages 6-10. Register online at www.tinyurl.com/nplkid for up to three of six options.
- **DOLLAR DEAL NIGHT** at the Children's Museum of New

Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover) on the first Friday of the month during the school year. From 5:30-8 p.m., museum admission will be \$1. Call 742-2002 or visit www.ch.

- **FAMILY PAJAMA TIME** in the meeting room at Hollis Social Library on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., all ages welcome. Enjoy stories and snacks.
- **FIRST FRIENDS PLAY GROUP** (Children's Museum of NH, 6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org) runs every Wednesday 9:30-11 a.m. Parents and their children ages 6-24 months are invited to come and play. This drop-in program is free for museum members; nonmembers pay regular admission.
- **FRIDAY AFTERNOON MOVIES** at West Manchester Community Library, every Friday at 3 p.m. Call 624-6550.
- **FRIDAY FAMILY MOVIES** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Square, Hollis) on the first Friday of the month at 5:15 p.m. Bring a potluck dish to share. Call 465-7721 or visit www.hollislibrary.org.
- **GIRL SCOUTS** of the Green and White Mountains, for girls ages 5-17. Make friends, take action, and have new and exciting experiences. See girlscoutsgwm.org or call 888-474-9686 to find a troop in your area.
- **GREATER MANCHESTER YMCA** (locations in Manchester, Goffstown, Londonderry and Rochester, gmfymca.org) offers before- and after-school care in all locations along with a School's Out program in Manchester. Rates vary depending on and location.
- **GREATER NASHUA YMCA** (6 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack, 881-7778, and 17 Prospect St., Nashua, 882-2011, nmyymca.org) offers an after-school program for children in grades 1-6.
- **HOMEWORK HELP** at the Connection Center, 280 DW Hwy., Merrimack, every Friday, 3-5 p.m. Free. See connection-center.org or call 670-8504.
- **LEGO CLUB** in the auditorium of Concord Public Library, second Thursday of each month, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Each month participants will be given a new building challenge; designed for grades K-8. Registration is not required. Call 225-8670.
- **LEGO CLUB** at Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), first and third Friday of the month at 3:30 p.m. For ages 6 and older. Build your own Lego project.
- **LEGOS** at Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith), every Tuesday and Thursday, 5-7:30 p.m. The library will provide a box of Legos to build with. Call 279-4303.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,
Have you ever heard of Solomon Wardwell, who had a cabinetmaking shop during the middle to late 1700s in Andover, Mass., at the site that is now occupied by Phillips Andover Academy?

Well, we have a rocker purportedly made by him, and it was evidently refinished in Keene by a gentleman by the name of Warren Cole around 1929. The chair is in pretty good condition, although some of the glue points are starting to loosen. There is a paper taped to the bottom of the chair that gives this information, and there is also another older piece of paper that I cannot read that may be just the original of the paper I can read.

This has been in my wife's family forever as she is a descendent of the Wardwell lineage. Can you confirm that this person existed and if this is a true product of his? What would be the value, if any?

Ed

Dear Ed,

Yes, Solomon Wardwell was a real person in the 1700s. He did reside in Andover until he moved here to New Hampshire with his family. He was a cabinetmaker, but I couldn't find anything substantial about his work, such as pieces that stood out at this time.

Most of the history of Solomon Wardwell is about the academy and its history. It does mention his cabinet work and workshop, but it seems to end there. I tried to find out if he did do work here in N.H. as well but came up with nothing. My suggestion to you, Ed, is to go to the N.H. Historical Society and see if there is any further information on him or his works, and then try to tie them to your wife's history.

I will tell you this, though. His work from your photo looks to be wonderful, so it would be interesting to see what else he made during his time of cabinetmaking, if anything. I will keep looking to see what I can uncover as well. It just takes time and patience.

- **MANCHESTER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB** (555 Union St., Manchester, 625-5982 or 625-5031, mbgenh.org) offers and after-school programs in various locations in Manchester, including the Keystone Club and homework help.
- **MESSY CRAFT CLUB** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Square, Hollis). First Monday of each month at 4 p.m. for grades K-2. After making a messy craft, enjoy a story. Call 465-7721 or visit www.hollislibrary.org.
- **MONDAY NIGHT SCRABBLE** Every Monday at Hollis Social Library, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the library meeting room. Invite your favorite Scrabble partner

to come with you, or meet new opponents. Bring a Scrabble board if you have one.

- **MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Square, Hollis) on the third Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. For girls in grades 5-8 and their mothers. Attendees are requested to bring a potluck dish. Sign up online at www.hollislibrary.org.
- **NASHUA BOYS & GIRLS CLUB** (47 Grand Ave., Nashua, 883-0523, bgen.com) offers programs for ages 5 to 18. Transportation is available from all Nashua schools to the Boys & Girls Club along with after-school programs at area schools. The website has a

full listing of programs.

- **OPEN GYM** at Flipz Gymnastics (134D Hall St., Concord, 224-3223, flipzgymnastics.com) on Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-noon and 2-3 p.m., Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon, and Saturdays, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. There are trampolines, rings, balance beams, tunnels, slides, an inflatable bounce house and more. Cost is \$5 per child. Call 224-3223.
- **PAWS FOR PAGES** Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682. Designed to help kids improve their reading and communication skills. Lily or Sparkle will be available with their handlers the first and third



The one thing I can say for now is that, even with the confirmation that it was made by him, rocking chairs would not necessarily be the piece that would bring the highest value unless it was a rare form, and this one isn't.

The quality is there, as I said, but without the recognition from his work the value would today probably be in the \$200 range. Other pieces such as chest, tables etc., would be much higher. I believe your chair to be from the 1800s, judging from the style.

Donna

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor and a licensed auctioneer. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668). 🍷

TECH SMARTS



Technological progression seems to be showing no signs of slowing down, and on Saturday, Dec. 8, high school students are invited to UNH Manchester (400 Commercial St., Manchester) for an Innovation Exchange. The event is designed for juniors and seniors and will feature eight technologically based workshops ranging from computer building to film making. Admission is free, and

registration begins at 9 a.m. Call 641-4150 or visit www.manchester.unh.edu/innovation.

Thursdays and second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 3:30-5 p.m. to listen as children read to her. Both are certified through Therapy Dogs International and are calm, gentle dogs that love people. Children who attend will each have 15 minutes of Lily's or Sparkle's undivided attention.

• **PAPER CRAFT** at the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), third Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. For ages 8 and older, a different paper craft each month. Call 654-2581 or visit www.wiltonlibrarynh.org.

• **PRESCHOOL ARTS AND CRAFTS** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on Thursdays at 1 p.m. Register at www.tinyurl.com/nplkid for up to three of six options.

• **SOUHEGAN VALLEY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB** (56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, svbgc.org) offers after-school for 6- to 18-year-olds along with before-school program for elementary students.

• **SQUAM TODDLER TIME** at Squam Lakes Association (534 Route 3, Holderness), on the third Thursday of the month through April, 10 a.m.-noon. Admission is free and activities will include nature exploration. Call 968-7336, info@squamlakes.org or visit www.squamlakes.org.

• **TOT TIME** at Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith), Fridays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. For children up to 3 years old, come for a story, art project and a snack. Call 279-4303.

• **WEE ONES PLAY GROUP** (Children's Museum of NH, 6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org) runs every Wednesday 9:45-10:45 a.m. This interactive, drop-in program for children ages 2-4 with a parent or caregiver includes art, music, movement and conceptual learning with a new theme each

week. The cost per adult/child pair is \$8 (\$5 for members).

• **WII FRIDAY** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Square, Hollis), every Friday, 2:30-4:45 p.m. Games and snacks will be provided, but kids in grades three and up are invited to bring their own. Call 465-7721 or visit www.hollislibrary.org.

• **WII WEDNESDAY** at Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), fourth Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. For grades five and up, Wii and board games will be available for an afternoon of play. Call 654-2581 or visit www.wiltonlibrarynh.org.

• **YWCA OF MANCHESTER** (72 Concord St., Manchester, 625-5785, ywcanh.org) offers Peer Action Changing Tomorrow, a 10-week YWCA teen leadership and education program that empowers teens to become resources and consultants to peers about sexuality and health concerns, and Girls Circle, a safe and fun place for girls to get away from all the difficult things they deal with from day to day. It also offers an after-school program for girls 6 to 13. Email info@ywcanh.org.

Sports

• **ALL-AGES ARCHERY** with New England School of Archery and Supplies. Classes are available for ages 7 and older throughout the state; equipment provided. Call 672-2845 or email nesaine@aol.com.

• **AMHERST SOCCER CLUB** (P.O. Box 853, Amherst, amherst-soccerclub.com) offers soccer programs for children age 3-10. There are also limited spots in boys' and girls' U11-U14 teams. Email registrar@amherstsoccerclub.com.

• **ARCHERY LESSONS** offered by Concord Recreation, for beginners and advanced players on Friday evenings or Saturday

afternoons for seven-week sessions at East Concord Community Center, Concord. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **BALLET AND TAP** for ages 2-7 at Green Street Community Center Dance Studio (39 Green St., Concord), on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation for times and prices.

• **BASKETBALL** offered by Concord Recreation for 4 years old to sixth grade. Learn basketball basics in a league stressing fun. Cost is \$55. Third-grade through sixth-grade leagues are only for Concord and Penacook residents. Call 225-8690 or visit www.concordnh.gov/recreation.

• **BASKETBALL** offered by Concord Recreation for grades 7-12. This league, for Concord and Penacook residents, is for students who did not make their school team, but still want to play basketball. Call 225-8690 or visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **BEDFORD BASKETBALL LEAGUE** (P.O. Box 10351, Bedford, 488-1161, bedfordbl.com) offers recreational teams for boys and girls in grades 2-8 and travel teams for boys and girls in grades 3 to 8 along with boys' and girls' biddy basketball for grades 9-12. Children must try out for travel teams.

• **FIELDHOUSE SPORTS** (12 Tallwood Drive, Bow, 226-4646, fieldhousesports.com) offers skills clinics for children 6 and older.

• **ITSEY BITSY SKATERS** at the Everett Ice Arena (15 Loudon Road, Concord), Wednesdays, through Dec. 19, 1:15-1:45 p.m. For ages 3-5. Call 225-8690 or visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **MANCHESTER EAST SOCCER LEAGUE** (mesl.org) has teams from U6 to U19.

• **MANCHESTER NORTH SOCCER LEAGUE** (mnsn.org) has teams from U6 to U19.

• **NH SPORTSPLEX** (68 Technology Drive, Bedford, 641-1313, nhsportsplex.com) offers soccer for children 18 months and older (including competitive soccer U8-U16), youth flag football and lacrosse. Call for prices and details.

• **NLP ELITE ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** Next Level Performance (31 S. Commercial St., Manchester, nlpspeed.com) offers in classes strength, speed, agility, flexibility and injury prevention for athletes ages 11 and older on Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri. Call 627-7500.

• **SOCCER DIVISION I** by Concord Recreation for grades 1-2, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 5-6:15 p.m. Cost is \$54. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

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• **SOCCER DIVISION II** by Concord Recreation for grades 3-4. Games will be played on Tuesday/Thursday and Saturday. Cost is \$54. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER DIVISION III GIRLS** by Concord Recreation for grades 5-6. Cost is \$54. Games will be played on Tuesday/Thursday and Saturday. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER FUNDAMENTALS** offered by Concord Recreation for ages 4-6 on Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$54. Open to Penacook residents. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **TRI-TOWN ICE ARENA** (311 W. River Road, Hooksett, 485-1100, tri-townicearena.com) offers learn to skate for 3-year-olds and older, learn to play hockey for 4- to 9-year-olds, and public skating.

Teen/tween events

• **TEEN VIDEO CHALLENGE** at Goffstown Public Library (2 High St., Goffstown). Join this national competition by filming a 30-90 second video that promotes the summer reading program and the theme of “Beneath the Surface.” A winner is chosen from each state and can win \$275 and \$125 for the library. Call 497-2102.

• **INNOVATION EXCHANGE** at UNH Manchester (400 Commercial St., Manchester) Sat., Dec. 8, at 9 a.m. For high school juniors and seniors, participate in technology based workshops including computer and robot building, filmmaking and game programming. Call 641-4150 or visit www.manchester.unh.edu/innovation.

• **DERRY ROOTS** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry) on Tue., Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Jan. 22, Feb. 5 and Feb. 19, 3:30-4:30. Visit the library to learn about local history and meet with teenagers in Derry, Ireland. Call 432-6140.

• **TEEN COOKING CLUB** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry) on Thurs., Dec. 13, Jan. 3, Jan. 17, Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and Feb. 28, 3-4:30 p.m. Learn to cook a variety of different foods. Call 432-6140.

• **DIGITAL PAINTING TEEN WORKSHOP** at Sharon Arts Center (457 Route 123, Sharon) Sat., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. for those with beginner skills in digital painting. Enrollment is \$82.

• **HOLIDAY COOKING, CRAFT AND MOVIE AFTER-NOON** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry) Thurs., Dec. 20, 3-5 p.m. Visit the library for holiday food, art and a movie. Call 432-6140.

EVERGREEN ART



In northern New England we are surrounded by evergreen trees, and while the trees certainly make for pretty scenery, they can be used to make pretty art as well. Visit Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester) Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., or 12:30 to 2 p.m., for Eco-Art with Evergreens. In this family event, go exploring for evergreen parts and use them to make decorations. Admission is \$5 per family and registration is required. Call 626-3474 or visit www.amoskeagfishways.org.

• **VACATION WEEK TEEN FILM** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) Wed., Dec. 26, at 6 p.m. Visit the library for movie night. Call 589-4646.

• **LEGACY MAGIC TOURNAMENT** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) Thurs., Dec. 27, at 2 p.m. Bring your Magic: The Gathering cards to the library for a tournament and a chance to win prizes. Register at tinyurl.com/nplteen and visit tinyurl.com/nplmagic for tournament information.

• **PLAY DATE NH** invites youth age 12-18 to learn, play and enjoy new card, strategy and board games at area libraries. Semi-professional gaming geeks will be on hand to mentor new players in classic and modern games. See playdaten.com. Game days are hosted on the second Saturday of each month, noon to 4 p.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, rodgerslibrary.org, 886-6030).

• **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-18 at the Hollis Social Library on the last Monday of every month, 2:30-4:15 p.m.

• **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-17 at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Discuss anime or manga, participate in games, and display your sketches in the teen room. Call 589-4612 or visit tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **ANIME CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester. Meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Open to grades 6-12. Play cards, watch movies, discuss favorite characters, and draw. Call Kate Norton at 624-6550, ext. 335, or email knorton@manchester.nh.gov for details.

• **ANIME AND MANGA CLUB** at Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), first Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. for teenagers to discuss, watch and draw Japanese-style comics and animation. Call 654-2581 or visit wiltonlibrarynh.org.

• **ANIME/MANGA CLUB** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson) meets on the third Monday of each month at 2:30 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. Call 886-6030.

• **BALLROOM DANCING** for ages 11-19 at Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., Manchester. To sign up, email qnctybalm@aol.com or call 622-1500. Visit queencityballroomnh.com.

• **BOOK DISCUSSIONS FOR TEENS** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on the last Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. Each month will have a theme, but participants can choose the book. Call 589-4610, email teens@nashualibrary.org or visit www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **BOOKS AND BITES** Talk books and eat food at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. A new theme each week. Call 589-4610, email teens@nashualibrary.org or visit www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **CECILIA ENSEMBLE** High school-age section of the Peterborough Children's Choir is open to girls grades 9-12 who can meet for practice Mondays 4-5:30 p.m. at Peterborough Unitarian Church on Main Street. There are requirements for singing ability and self-motivation. Contact Maria Belva at 924-2055 or mariabelva@gmail.com. pcchoir.org.

• **CHICKS WITH STICKS BOOK CLUB** Wadleigh Memo-

INSIDE/OUTSIDE KIDDIE POOL

Eat with Santa

• Visit the Hooksett Library (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett) on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., for a **Santa and Friends Party**. Visit the library for brunch with Santa, Mrs. Claus and possibly a special reindeer visit. There will also be crafts, games and other holiday treats. Call 485-6092 or visit www.hooksettlibrary.org.

• Santa will be taking a break from toy making to visit the Chester Municipal Building (84 Chester St., Chester) for breakfast. On Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8 a.m. to noon, **dine with Saint Nick** and take a photo together. Admission is \$6 with a maximum \$25 charge for a family of six. Admission includes one family photo and additional photos will be available for \$2. In addition to breakfast, come for games, crafts, stories and raffles. Visit www.chesterlibrary.com.

Get a picture with Santa

• Visit the Library Street School (22 Library St., Hudson) on Saturday, Dec. 8, for a craft fair. At the fair, visit a special craft area just for kids and **take a photo with Santa**. Admission is free. Visit lss.sau81.org.

• Santa will also be making his way to the Gate City for a **free picture session** with visitors. Head to the Greeley Park Gazebo (100 Concord St., Nashua) Sunday, Dec. 9, from noon to 2 p.m. Parents can bring their cameras to the park to snap a photo of their kids with Santa. The event is presented by the Nashua Parks & Recreation Department. Call 589-3370 or visit www.gonashua.com.

More holiday fun

• All aboard for a trip on *The Polar Express*. All four Barnes & Noble locations

in New Hampshire (1741 South Willow St., Manchester; 235 DW Highway, Nashua; 125 S. Broadway, Salem; and 45 Gosling Road, Newington) will host a **reading of *The Polar Express*** on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. Visit for holiday snacks, activities and the beloved Christmas Eve train ride. Visit www.bn.com.

• Windham will be bringing Santa in with style at the **Annual Tree Lighting** event on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 3-5 p.m. Visit the town hall and town commons (4 N. Lowell Road, Windham) as Santa arrives by firetruck, escorted by the Salem High School marching band. Stick around for a bonfire, crafts, holiday treats and the tree lighting. Call Windham Recreation at 965-1208.

• Head downtown for the first ever **New Hampshire for the Holidays Expo**. On Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., visit the Radisson Hotel (700 Elm St., Manchester) for a model train exhibit and a Victorian village. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$4 for ages 3 to 12 and free for ages 2 and younger. Visit www.millyardcommunications.com.

Roald Dahl quiz

• *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Matilda*, *The BFG* and more. Show off your knowledge of Roald Dahl's classic children's books at the Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford) on Monday, Dec. 10, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Visitors to the library will be split into teams for a Jeopardy-style **Roald Dahl quiz game**. Recommended for kids in grades 2 through 5. Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org. 🍪

rial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays, 3 p.m. in the AV Room. For grades 7 and up, this club invites participants to bring their current knitting projects, enjoy snacks and book discussions. New members and beginner knitters are welcome. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **FANTASY BOOK CLUB** held on the first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us/library. For ages 8-13. For kids who love reading fantasy books about dragons, magic, the future and more. Free and open to the public.

• **GEEKS R US ANIME CLUB** for teens at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. in the Keyes Meeting Room. Hang out and discuss your favorite anime or manga series, games and activities. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **JR. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, for grades 5 and up, on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Children can help organize, plan and run special family, children's and summer reading programs. They can earn volunteer hours. Sign up at hollislibrary.org.

• **MONDAY NIGHT SCRABBLE** every week, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. Join young adults for some fun rounds of this classic word game. Invite a partner. Bring a Scrabble board, if possible.

• **NH INSTITUTE OF ART** (148 Concord St., Manchester, 866-241-4918, nhia.edu) offers classes for high school students college credit. Prices vary depending on type of class and materials needed.

• **TEEN ADVISORY BOARD** meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. For ages 13-18. Help the library plan programs, choose books and materials for teens, organize outreach, decorate the teen area, eat snacks and hang out with friends. Community service credit will be given.

• **TEEN COOKING CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, meets monthly on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Teens ages 11-18 are welcome to learn the basics of cooking, make their favorite dishes and explore new types of food. All materials will be provided. Club meets in the Winchell Room. Call 624-6550.

• **TEEN MUSIC CLASSES** at Music Together of Milford, 102 Elm St., Milford, on Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Advanced and intermediates welcome to acoustic music class led by Amy Con-

meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. For ages 13-18. Help the library plan programs, choose books and materials for teens, organize outreach, decorate the teen area, eat snacks and hang out with friends. Community service credit will be given.

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ley. Cost is \$10/session. Adults also welcome. Call 249-9560 to register. Visit amyconleymusic.com.

• **TEEN PIZZA & PAGES** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. For grades 5 and up. Enjoy pizza while discussing a book. Copies available on the teen display. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **TWEEN TUESDAYS** every Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the meeting room at the Hollis Social Library. Choose from Fantasy Book, Game Club, Craft Days, Book Buddies, or do all four. Fantasy Book Club is on the first Tuesday of every month and designed for kids who love reading fantasy books. Books provided at each meeting for the following month. Game Club is on the second Tuesday of every month and includes Wii, board games and snacks. Craft Days are the third Tuesday of every month. Book Buddies is the fourth Tuesday of every month and includes planning story times and crafts for preschool children. Read at after-school storytime and family pajama time

• **WII DAYS FOR TEENS** at Hollis Social Library, every other Friday, 3 p.m., for ages 12-18. Snacks and drinks provided. Sign up at the circulation desk.

• **TEEN WRITERS** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on Tuesdays, Dec. 11, Jan. 15, and Feb. 12, at 4 p.m. Give and receive feedback on any style of writing. Call 589-4600 or visit tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **TEEN WRITERS GROUP** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry), bi-weekly. Check calendar for times. Learn about story development and listen to others' stories. Call 432-6140 or visit ww.derry.lib.nh.us.

• **TEEN WRITING CLUB** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford. Free-write for the first half-hour, then read aloud (you can bring in anything you've been working on at home for this part). Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **WRITER'S BLOCK** is a group of aspiring writers who meet up every Saturday in the Library Meeting Room at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis. Call 456-7728 after 5 p.m.

• **YOU'RE FIRED** (Bedford, 641-FIRE; Concord, 226-FIRE; Salem, 894-KILN; yourefirednh.com) Friday Night is Teen Night and teen studio fees are \$4 (half off).

CLUBS

Hobby

• **ANIME AND MANGA CLUB** meets at Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson. Meetings will involve book discussions, anime viewing, workshops. Visit rogerslibrary.org or call 886-6030.

• **APPLE CLUB** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, meets the last Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. This club will provide local user support for Apple products. User meetings feature product demos and

discussions of technology as it relates to Apple computing. Visitors are welcome. Visit web.me.com/applepower.

• **BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB** at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 12:15-1:30 p.m. Call 624-6550.

• **NASHUA CHESS CLUB** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua), Saturdays, 2-4 p.m. Call 589-4600.

• **GENEALOGY CLUB** at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, second Friday of each month, 1:30 p.m. Trade tips and techniques with others interested in family research and learn about genealogical resources located in the library. Visit rogerslibrary.org or call 886-6030, ext. 4522.

• **MANCHESTER RICHELIEU CLUB** meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at the Chateau Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. If you speak French, enhance your enjoyment of the language by becoming a member of this club. Call Walter Parienteau at 964-6925.

• **MANCHESTER STAMP CLUB** meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Villa Crest Nursing Home, 1276 Hanover St., Manchester. Call Bob Dion at 625-5082.

• **NASHUA CAMERA CLUB** meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library. Each month, there are three topics chosen for competitions. Entries can be submitted either digitally or as prints. Visitors and new members are always welcome. See nashuacameraclubnh.org or contact Dave Marden at 305-7036 or dmarden1@myfairpoint.net.

• **NH FLYING MISFITS** radio-controlled flying club meets on the first Monday of every month at Goldenrod Drive-In Restaurant (1681 Candia Road, Manchester). Email nhfmrcc@gmail.com or visit www.nhflyingmisfits.org.

• **NH FLYING TIGERS** radio control flying club meets the last Wednesday of every month at the B-St. Flying Field, 1 B St., or Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. Visit newhampshireflyingtigers.org.

• **PAEI ENERGY EXCHANGE** to discuss renewable energy. Visit plymouthenergy.org or call 536-5030.

• **PHOTOGRAPHERS FORUM** camera club meets at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, on the first and third Monday of each month. This informal club offers educational programs for all ability levels and the opportunity to meet people with similar interests. Attend your first meeting free. Thereafter, dues are \$30 per year for individuals, \$50 for families; full-time students pay \$15. See photographersforum.org.

• **RADIO CLUB** Radio Club meets first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at First Church of Nashua, 1 Concord St., Nashua. Go to n1fd.org.

• **SOUTHERN NH FLYING EAGLES** club meets at their flying field in Merrimack throughout the summer. Meetings are open to the public. Visit snhflyingeagles.org.

TREES IN WOLFEBORO



\$12. Proceeds benefit the Appalachian Mountain Teen Project and Granite State Adaptive. Visit www.wolfeforofestivaloftrees.com.

The Wright Museum (77 Center St., Wolfefboro) will host the Wolfefboro Festival of Trees on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 9, from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 16, noon to 3 p.m. The museum will be decorated with more than 65 trees supplied by local businesses and will feature live music each day of the festival. General admission tickets are \$5 (\$2 for ages 8 and younger). Family admission is

• **SOCRATES CAFÉ** second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Starbucks, 1111 S. Willow St., Manchester. Contact Marc Berthiaume at Socratescafenh@comcast.net.

• **SOUHEGAN VALLEY BRIDGE PLAYERS** 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Wadleigh Memorial Library, Milford; newcomers always welcome.

• **SOUTHERN NH RADIO CONTROL CLUB** on the second Tuesday of the month at Wagner Field on Old Landfill Road, Hudson. Visit snhrcc.org or email Wally Adaszczik at president@snhrcc.org.

• **UNITED DIVERS OF NH** the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the YMCA in Manchester (30 Mechanic St.). Visitors are welcome. Visit udnh.org.

Men's

• **RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION** meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at Community Health Services, 195 McGregor St., Manchester. Free of charge and all interested men are invited. Call 965-3573 or contact 965-3573

Professional

• **CONCORD YOUNG PROFESSIONALS** meets third Wednesday each month. Call 224-2508 or email rkinnan@concordnhchamber.com.

• **IUGO** is young professionals and is by the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce, nashuachamber.com. No cost for membership. Go to iugonashua.com.

• **MANCHESTER ROTARY CLUB** meets every Monday at 12:15 p.m. at Fratello's Restaurant (155 Dow St., Manchester). Visit manchesterr Rotary.org.

• **MANCHESTER YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK** meets monthly; see mynpn.org.

• **NEW HAMPSHIRE CREATIVE CLUB** is an organization of creative professionals such as graphic designers, photographers, illustrators, copywriters, desktop publishers, printers,

color separators and other professionals in related fields. The club serves as a creative forum for networking and education in the advertising and visual communications field through a series of monthly meetings that include panel discussions, presentations and workshops. Visit nhcreativeclub.org.

Toastmaster clubs

• **AMOSKEAG BETTER COMMUNICATORS** every Wed. 7-9 p.m. at the Amoskeag Business Incubator, 33 S. Commercial St., Manchester. Email info@abc.freetoasthost.us or go to abc.freetoasthost.us.

• **CAPITOL TM** Monday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Casey Family Services, 105 Loudon Road, 2nd floor, Concord. Visit capital.freetoasthost.us or email learn.more@capital.freetoasthost.us.

• **CONCORD TM** meets Fridays at 7 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 2 Maitland St., Concord. Call 224-2468 or go to concord.freetoasthost.info.

• **CORE TM** meets on Tuesdays at noon at Felton Brush Co., 7 Burton Drive, Londonderry. Go to core.freetoasthost.net.

• **EXETER SPEAK-UPS** meets first, third and fifth Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. at the Stop & Shop Supermarket, second-floor conference room, 137 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter. Go to exeterspeakups.freetoasthost.us.

• **HORSEPOND** meets Wednesdays at noon at Northeast Delta Dental, Delta Drive. Call 223-1287 (ask for Joe) or email jkasper@nedelta.com or go to horseshoepond.freetoasthost.us.

• **MERRIMASTER** meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at noon at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. For more information, go to merrimaster.freetoasthost.com/index.html.

• **TM OF MANCHESTER** first, third and fifth Thursdays of each month, at 6 p.m. at VHG Labs Inc., 276 Abby Road, Manchester. See Manchester.freetoasthost.info.

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Off-season gardening activities for kids

A little garden troll goes a long way

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

I have a grandson, George, who I love to bits. I've been encouraging him to garden pretty much all his life. When he was 4 years old — the perfect age for engaging him in both the world of my gardens, and in the imaginary world — I tried stretching his imagination and getting him interested in all aspects of the outdoors. Gardeners are made, not born, so I work with him even when the gardens are sleeping. By engaging his imagination and having fun with him outdoors, I am helping him to love the garden.

Here are some of the things we did on a visit. First, we went to look at one of my stone projects, which was on hold at the time. I was building a troll house out of stone, a 4-foot diameter dry-stone igloo.

Before George arrived I placed a small ceramic garden troll at the site, standing between the rocks that make the foundation. First I explained that the trolls can make gold coins, and then I let him find the bright new copper pennies I'd placed among the stones. He wasn't sure if they were gold

and really wanted to believe that the troll could make them — even though he knew that the troll clearly was not real. Trolls only come alive a night, I told him.

Then we went down to the back lawn to look at the mole activities. Moles have been digging ferociously all fall, pushing up piles of soil on the lawn. They have been so active that I considered mixing up a batch of mole-repellent but decided against it. Instead I used a hoe and a shovel to collect the soil and wheelbarrowed some pretty nice loam over to my garden for future use in a raised bed.

I explained to George that moles eat grubs and worms, live underground, and that the soil we saw was a sign that they were digging new tunnels. The soil had frozen, so I peeled off a lump, and George looked down the hole, which was about an inch and a half in diameter. It's important to me that he understands that the little animals of the garden are our friends, even if they sometimes do things we don't like, and that I would never consider killing them.

We walked along the stream that skirts the lawn and garden, looking at icicles forming on weeds and stones. We looked at

the red berries of the winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) that I had planted along the stream. We discussed edible versus non-edible berries. I explained that he should never eat berries unless he had them identified by me or his folks as edible, because some are poisonous.

Like my corgi, Daphne, George loves berries of all sorts. He asked about our grapes, and we went to see if there were any left on the vine. It was late November, but sure enough, there were still some frozen grapes on the vines. We ate a few and spit the seeds in the general direction of the other, giggling generously.

The variety of grape we ate is called St. Croix, a purple grape that I had been growing on an arbor for about three years. It has done well, climbing and spreading itself over the vine structure. The birds ate all the grapes I had growing on wires on the barn but somehow had missed these — or decided to leave them for us. The other grapes I grow are Valiant and Worden, both very hardy and productive. A good winter read about grapes is *The Grape Grower: A Guide to Organic Viticulture* by Lon Rombough.

If you have a child or grand-



Garden trolls add fun to the landscape. Henry Homeyer photo.

child, you can help them to love the garden — even in winter. I make the assumption that everything in the natural world is of interest to kids, and that pointing things out and explaining how things work in the garden will be of interest to them — at least until they turn into teenagers.

One of the other things George and I did on that visit was poke around in my carrot patch to see if I had missed any when I dug the last of my carrots the day before. We didn't find any, but George,

who grew prize-winning Purple Dragon carrots in his plot (in my garden), announced that next year he was going to grow more carrots. Then we went inside and shared a fresh purple-skinned carrot I'd picked the day before.

Henry is the author of a new kid's book: Wobar and the Quest for the Magic Calumet. Learn more about it at www.henryhomeyer.com 🍌

LEADERSHIP CLUB meets on the second and fourth Wednesday at 7 a.m. at the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce offices on Route 101A in Amherst. Call 978-270-8158 or visit souhegan-speakers.toastmastersclubs.org.

• **TOP OF THE TOWN CLUB** meets every other Friday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in Room 222 at Manchester Community College (1066 Front St., Manchester).

• **WINNING SPEAKERS CLUB** meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Windham Senior Center, 2 N. Lowell Road, Windham. Email club_visits@winning-speakers.freetoasthost.com or go to winningspeakers.freetoasthost.com.

Women

• **BPW NASHUA CHAPTER** The Business and Professional Women group (bpwnashua.com) on the third Thursday of the month at 11:15 a.m., at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua. The luncheon meeting includes a keynote speaker and networking. Everyone is welcome to attend.

RSVP is not necessary. There is a small charge for the meeting.

• **RETIRED WOMEN'S GROUP** at Prime Time, 195 McGregor St., Manchester. Fourth Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. Call 663-6333.

• **QUOTA INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB** meets fourth Monday of each month. Quotarians are known for service to deaf, hard-of-hearing, speech-impaired individuals and disadvantaged women and children. Go to quotamanchesternh.org.

• **QUEEN CITY MOTHERS OF TWINS CLUB** support group for mothers, grandmothers, guardians and expectant mothers of multiples, queencitymothersoftwinsclub.com, meets at Knights of Columbus Hall, Porter Street, Manchester.

• **WOMAN'S CLUB OF CONCORD** meet at the Chamberlin House, 44 Pleasant St., Concord. Go to concordwomansclub.com.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Open houses

• **MANCHESTER COMMU-**

NITY COLLEGE open house, 1066 Front St., Manchester, Thurs., Dec. 6, 4-7 p.m. Drop off an application to have the fee waived and visit faculty and staff. Call 206-8100 or email Manchester-Admissions@ccsnh.edu.

Adult education

• **ADULT EDUCATION** classes offered by Nashua School District at Chuck Druding Drive, Nashua, 589-6416. Nashua Adult and Community Education offers courses for adults 18+ to earn credit toward a high school diploma, driver's education program and an enrichment program with classes in arts and crafts, cooking, language, engine repair, college planning, computers and more. Courses run at night. See nashua.edu.

• **CONCORD TV** Concord Community TV, at Concord High School, 170 Warren St., Concord, offers classes in studio production, introduction to camera and editing for Concord residents. Prerequisite is to attend an orientation, held on the first Thurs. of the month at 6 p.m. or by appoint-

ment. Visit yourconcordtv.org for a class schedule and call 226-8872 to sign up.

• **CITIZENSHIP CLASSES** are held at the Adult Learning Center, 4 Lake St., Nashua, 882-9080, ext. 201. Six-week courses prepare students for the citizenship test and aid with the citizenship application process.

• **CLASSES FOR LIFE** Concord High School's continuing education program offers computer courses, driver's education, a diploma program and youth classes. All classes held at Concord High School, 170 Warren St., Concord. Call 225-0804 or visit classesforlife.com for a list.

• **COMPUTER TRAINING** at Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton). Training sessions are offered at no cost. Call 654-2581 or email billb@wiltonlibrarynh.org.

• **COMPUTER WORKSHOPS** at Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. and Thursdays, 11 a.m.-noon. Sign up for one-on-one instruction on basic computer skills. Registration is

required. Call 465-7721.

• **CREATIVE WRITING** at Trumpet Gallery (8 Grove St., Peterborough) on Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Learn writing techniques from Cynthia West, publisher of Monadnock Living Magazine. Admission is \$45 per class and prior registration is required. Call 924-9862.

• **FREE COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL COURSES** on CD at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4603. Nashua Public Library cardholders can borrow any of 33 full-length college and high-school courses on CD and DVD covering a wide range of subjects from religion to astronomy to poetry.

• **FREE ESL CLASSES** offered by Adult Learner Services of Greater Derry. Morning classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to noon, at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. Evening classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Gilbert H. Hood Middle School, 5 Hood Road, Derry. Call 432-1907 for next session dates,

or email rcatp@yahoo.com. See greaterderryliteracy.org.

• **FREE GED PREP CLASSES** offered by Adult Learner Services of Greater Derry, at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. \$20 cash book deposit is required for registration. Call 432-1907 for next session dates, or email rcatp@yahoo.com. See greaterderryliteracy.org.

• **LEARNING INSTITUTE OF NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE** offers non-credit, peer-led, peer-taught courses at a nominal fee to members, open to both retired and younger adults who enjoy learning for its own pleasure.

• **NASHUA ADULT LEARNING CENTER** (4 Lake St., Nashua, 882-9080, adultlearning-center.org) offers classes in basic adult education, GED preparation, ESOL classes, adult learner services, computer and job training, and community education.

• **OLLI COURSES** The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute provides classes, lectures and field trips for adults age 50+ through Granite State College, 513-1377,

granite.edu. Membership costs \$40; costs vary for individual classes. Some classes are multi-week and some are one day only. Classes are on arts, literature, history, personal finance and more. See online schedule.

CRAFTS

Fairs/Exhibits

• **NEW ENGLAND HOLIDAY CRAFT FESTIVAL** at Rockingham Park (79 Rockingham Park Blvd., Salem) Fri., Dec. 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Browse through 200 vendors from throughout New England. Admission for all three days is \$7. Visit www.castleberryfairs.com.

• **HOLLYTOWN FAIR** at the Arlington Street United Methodist Church (63 Arlington St., Nashua), Sat., Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Check out crafts, jewelry, baked goods, a children's area and silent auctions. Contact Samantha at 882-2489 or samjean@comcast.net.

• **BISHOP BRADY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2013 HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR** at Bishop Brady High School (25 Columbus Ave., Concord) Sat., Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Visit the school for crafts, a cookie walk, raffles and a Santa appearance. Visit www.bbhsraffair.com.

• **LIBRARY STREET SCHOOL HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR** at Library Street School (22 Library St., Hudson) Sat., Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Visit the school for crafts, raffles and a kids area. Visit lss.sau81.org.

• **HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD CRAFT EXHIBIT** at the League of NH Craftsmen (49 N. Main St., Concord), through Wed., Dec. 12. Call 224-3375 or visit nhcrafts.org.

Knitting

• **BROOKLINE PUBLIC LIBRARY** (16 Main St., Brookline, 673-3330, brookline.nh.us) has a knitting, crocheting and cross-stitch group that meets Mondays at 6 p.m. The group is informal and drop-ins are welcome.

• **DROP-IN KNITTING CLUB** Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, every Tuesday, 3-4 p.m. Call 465-7721. Meet, mingle and trade yarns with local knitters. Compare patterns, sharing techniques and trading tips. Drop in, no signup required.

• **DROP-IN STITCHERS** Fridays, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.

• **THE ELEGANT EWE** (71 S. Main St., Concord, 226-0066, elegantewe.com) offers a variety of knitting classes and workshops, as well as classes in felting and spinning.

• **FRIDAY NIGHT KNITTING CLUB** every Friday 6-10 p.m. at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com). Open project, no fee. Bring an existing project or start a new one. Call

BOWL FOR WISHES



Hit the lanes at Strikers East (4 Essex Drive, Raymond) for a Holiday Cosmic Bowlathon on Tuesday, Dec. 18, from 7 to 10 p.m. Admission is \$25 and benefits the High Hopes Foundation of New Hampshire, which helps grant a wish for seriously ill children in the state. Visitors are also encouraged to bring a \$10 Yankee Swap gift. Call High Hopes at 429-1010 or Strikers East at 895-9501 or visit www.highhopesfoundation.org. Pictured: Pins fall at Strikers East. Courtesy photo.

505-4432.

• **HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY** (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettpubliclibrary.org) hosts a learning-to-knit circle every Friday, 1-2 p.m., in the adult room of the library. Tea and coffee are served.

• **KELLEY LIBRARY** (234 Main St., Salem, 898-7064, kelleylibrary.org) has a knitting circle on Mondays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 1 p.m. The weekly gatherings are open to Salem knitters of all skill levels. Members answer questions, offer tips and share techniques. No registration is required. Crocheters are welcome, too.

• **KNIT 1, CROCHET 2** drop-in stitch-fests held at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, the first and fourth Mondays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring a project and be inspired. Beginners will be able to get help selecting a project and the necessary supplies. There won't be formal instruction, but members of the group help each other. Tea is served.

• **KNIT WITS** meets at Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., Chester, the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Work on a craft, chat with others and share knowledge. This group is open to all who like to sew, crochet, knit and/or stitch. Contact the library at 887-3404.

• **KNITTING CLUB** every Tuesday at the Hollis Social Library, 3-4 p.m. in the library meeting room. Meet, mingle and trade yarns with local knitters. Have fun comparing patterns, sharing techniques and trading tips on stitches, sweaters and mittens. Drop in, no signup required.

• **KNITTING CLUB** every Friday, at 11 a.m., at West Manchester Library, 76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560. Both experienced and novice knitters are invited to attend. No registration required.

• **NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY** (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) hosts a knitting group every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• **NEEDLES AND SHUTTLES** meets in The Fiber Studio, Foster Hill Road, Henniker. This informal group welcomes new and experienced knitters to share skills and conversation. Bring a knitting project. Call 428-7830.

• **NESMITH KNITTERS** meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Nesmith Library (8 Fellows Road, Windham, 432-7154, nesmithlibrary.org). All skills and ages welcome.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for the current schedule.

• **SOCKS ON A 12-INCH CIRCULAR NEEDLE** at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com) on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40. Call 505-4432.

• **ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL** in Nashua is looking for volunteers to help knit or crochet comfort shawls for patients who may be seriously ill, undergoing medical procedures, emotionally or physically traumatized, seeking hope and healing or grieving. The need for shawls is ongoing and frequently the supply becomes depleted. Contact the Spiritual Care Department at St. Joseph Hospital at 882-3000, ext. 67800. You will receive more information and a brochure with both knitting and crocheting instructions.

• **STITCHING SOCIALS** at the Spotted Sheep Yarn Shoppe (9 Church St., Goffstown), every Sunday, 1-3 p.m. Knit, crochet and talk with other

crafters. Admission is free. Call 660-1115 or visit www.spottedsheep yarnshoppe.com.

• **YARN AND FIBER CO.** (11 Manchester Road, Derry, 505-4432, yarnandfiber.com) offers classes in knitting, as well as Friday night knitting club and classes focused on a single piece.

Quilting

• **AMETHYST ROSE QUILT SHOP** (37 Crystal Ave., Unit 5, Derry, theamethystrosequilts.com, 489-8161) offers open quilt times, project-specific classes and more.

• **AMOSKEAG QUILTERS GUILD** meets at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 14 Mammoth Road, Hooksett, on the third Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m. Email more.info@amoskeagqg.org or visit www.amoskeagqg.org.

• **BEDFORD FRIENDSHIP QUILT GUILD** meets the third Tuesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the fellowship room of the Bedford Presbyterian Church to make quilts for children in Families in Transition. Call Pam Mikkola at 472-9225 or Lois Tourangeau at 424-0417.

• **THE CAPITAL QUILTERS GUILD** (capitalquiltersguild.org) holds meetings the second Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Havenwood Heritage Heights in Concord. The Guild also offers classes.

• **THE CHESTNUT QUILTER** (167 Londonderry Turnpike, Hooksett, 647-8458, thechestnutquilter.com) offers Monday and Wednesday morning classes from 9 a.m. to noon that cost \$15 per session.

• **GIRLS NIGHT OUT** at Pine Tree Quilt Shop (224 N. Broadway, Salem, pinetreequilts.com) on Saturdays 5-10 p.m. Cost is \$15 per month. Call 870-8100.

• **HANNAH DUSTIN QUILT GUILD** meets at Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave., Hudson. Meetings are on the first Monday of the month through June. Go to hannahdustingqg.org or call Elyse at 635-7436.

• **KEARSARGE QUILTERS** meet on the second Tuesday of each month, 1-3 p.m., at MainStreet BookEnds (16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com)

• **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-2757, nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for current schedule.

• **NH STATE QUILTERS ASSOCIATION** (nhsqa.org) offers membership for \$10 per year.

• **NH QUILTERS' EMPORIUM** (Pennichuck Square on Route 101A, 707 Milford Road, Merrimack, 880-0300, nhqe.com) offers classes in quilting.

• **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** 57 N. Main St., Concord, 223-2344, peggyannes.com offers classes in quilting, sewing and more.

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AC problem might actually be vacuum problem



Dear Tom and Ray:

My name is Luke, and I am a musician playing double bass with a band based out of Norman, Okla. Our record label has thoughtfully provided us with a Ford E350 van for touring. Recently, we have upgraded our trailer to a larger and heavier one. While this makes it much easier to transport our gear, we've noticed an issue occurring with our air conditioning. With the trailer attached, the AC will cut out whenever we accelerate or travel up an incline. What's worse, when the AC cuts out, the heat automatically kicks on, full blast. We've taken the van to mechanics a couple of times. They've been unable to reproduce the issue, and they say that they've never heard of this problem before. It appears to occur more frequently as the temperature rises and we need the AC more. I've considered that we are stressing the engine too much with the trailer and that the van is trying to siphon heat off the engine, but the temp gauge never budges. According to it, we are running in the normal range. This van has AC controls for both the front and back sections of the van, and this is occurring with both sections, usually at the same time. Since we are

on the Texas country circuit, we naturally spend a lot of time in Texas. Having nine men in a van with no AC (or worse, the heat on full blast) in southern Texas leads to astounding levels of ... interesting odors. I am composing this letter in the van, sweating profusely. While we are trying to ride the climate controls to turn the air on and off as the AC kicks in and out, it isn't really working. Please, for the love of everything holy, help! — Luke

RAY: In addition to a perspiration problem, you have a vacuum problem, Luke.

TOM: There are little "blend doors" in the ducts of the ventilation system that open and close to direct hot and cold air to where you want it. Those doors are held open or closed by small vacuum motors.

RAY: And for some reason, those motors aren't getting enough vacuum, especially when the engine is under a condition we call "WOT," or "wide-open throttle."

TOM: The vacuum is created by the engine, when the pistons go down and suck air into the cylinders. Vacuum is at its highest when the engine is idling and the throttle is closed (closing the throttle is like putting your hand over the end of your vacuum cleaner's hose) and at its lowest when the throttle is wide open. And when would the throttle be wide open? When you're trying to climb a hill in a van with nine large, sweaty dudes while towing enough equipment to outfit the Lawrence Welk orchestra.

RAY: So, either you have lousy vacuum to begin with and it's failing under high demand, or you have adequate vacuum and it's leaking out somewhere along the way to those blend door motors.

TOM: So, start with a simple pressure test to see if your engine is producing enough vacuum right at the intake manifold. That's the source of your vacuum, and

it's from there that vacuum gets distributed to the heater controls, the power-brake booster and anything else that requires it.

RAY: If the vacuum is sufficient there, then you'll need to trace the route of the vacuum from the engine to the blend doors. There could be a crack or a small hole in the manifold itself, or in one of the vacuum hoses.

TOM: Or you could have a bad vacuum reservoir (which stores vacuum for use during those moments of wide-open throttle so you don't get blasted with heat).

RAY: Some systems even use a check valve to maintain vacuum during wide-open throttle, and yours could be broken.

TOM: If there is a leak, the best way to find it is with a smoke test. There's a machine that pumps smoke into your vacuum system so you can watch and see exactly where it's escaping. That's where your leak is.

RAY: Of course, don't do the smoke test while driving, Luke, or you guys'll end up with heatstroke, odor-induced delirium AND smoke inhalation.

Dear Tom and Ray:

My local automotive-repair shop offers a service in which they will "re-flash" your car's computer. Is that helpful, or just an unnecessary service to generate profits for the shop? Is it something I could do myself with one of those \$150 scan tools from the auto-parts store? The shop claims the "flashing" will remove false engine codes, increase engine performance, improve gas mileage, etc. So what do you think? — Dan

TOM: Gee, I thought that was illegal. Last time my brother flashed someone at the garage, he spent 30 days in jail.

RAY: This is not something you can do yourself with an inexpensive scan tool,

Dan. The equipment required to re-flash the car's computer costs several thousand dollars. And there are different machines for different manufacturers.

TOM: The good news is, there's no reason to "re-flash" your computer's memory as a maintenance service.

RAY: The primary reason to re-flash a computer (which basically means updating or reinstalling its software) is that an update has been issued by the manufacturer.

TOM: If the update is to address a serious drivability or safety issue, you or your dealer will be notified by the manufacturer that there's a software update, and that it's recommended for all vehicles. Dealers often will do that for free, especially if you're in for something else.

RAY: The other reason we'll re-flash a computer is if we already have our machine hooked up to the car for some other reason. It's a very simple procedure, and there may be minor updates that the car hasn't had. The manufacturer may have tweaked the transmission-shifting algorithm or some other parameters that are not crucial but may bring slight improvements to drivability, mileage or emissions.

TOM: So if your shop has the capacity to re-flash your computer, and they're not going to charge you too much for it, it can't hurt anything, and it might be useful.

RAY: But as long as you haven't received a notification from your manufacturer, there's no need to re-flash anything on a regular basis except your chimney.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com. (c) 2012 by Tom and Ray Magliozzi and Doug Ber-man. 🍌

PIECE MAKERS QUILT

GUILD meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., in the basement of the Holy Cross Church (118 Center Road, Weare). Email JLL3311@juno.com.

PINE TREE QUILT SHOP

(224 N. Broadway, Salem, 870-8100, pinetreequiltshop.com) offers quilting classes for all levels of ability. See website for a complete list.

STITCHING UP THE WORLD

is a nonprofit group of volunteers who knit, crochet or sew items for charities on the third Thursday of each month, 7-9 p.m. at Smyth Public Library (55 High St., Candia). Visit candiawomansgroup.org or call 587-0603.

Scrapbooking & paper

• **FREE CROP** at Scrappin' Soul Sisters (7 Perely St., Concord, scrappinsoulsisters.com) Tuesdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• **MARY'S MEMORIES** (12 Clark Road, Milford, 249-8978, marysmemories.com) offers individual lessons, one-session workshops and a basic scrapbooking class.

• **PAPER TECHNIQUES** workshops will be held at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson, on the first Thursday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Learn how to make things out of paper. Projects include scrapbooking, card-making, stamping, quilting and decoupage. Register at 886-6030.

• **STAMPING MEMORIES** (96 DW Hwy., Belmont, 528-

0498, nhstampingmemories.com, info@nhstampingmemories.com) offers classes on a variety of kinds of card-making.

• **TALK PAPER SCISSORS** (Willow Tree Plaza, 575 S. Willow St., Manchester, 669-8009, talkpaperscissors.com) offers introductory scrapbooking classes, as well as classes on specific aspects of scrapbooking (collage-making, art journaling) and on crafts such as card-making and lampshade-decorating.

• **THURSDAY NIGHT SCRAPBOPERS** at Pine Tree Quilt Shop (224 N. Broadway, Salem, 870-8100, pinetreequiltshop.com) on the third Thursday of the month 5:30-8:30 p.m. Get help and work on an unfinished project or learn a new technique each month. Cost is \$12 per session.

Sewing

• **DROP-IN STITCHERS** on Fridays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.

• **LEVESQUE SEWING MACHINE** (1261 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 645-1661, levesquesewvac.com) offers classes from beginner to advanced in sewing and quilting. Classes are scheduled according to demand; call to find out about availability.

• **MERRI STITCHES** (72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth, 431-9922; 58 Range Road, Windham, 685-

0185, merristitches.com) offers classes and workshops, as well as a sit and sew. Visit the website for a schedule at each store.

• **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-2757, nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for schedule.

• **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** (480 Patten Hill Road, Candia, 223-2344, peggyannes.com) offers classes on quilting, sewing and more. See schedule on website.

Spinning

• **THE ELEGANT EWE** (71 S. Main St., Concord, 226-0066, elegantewe.com) offers workshops in spinning.

• **KEARSARGE AREA WOOL SPINNERS** meet on the last Tuesday of every month, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Main Street Bookends (16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com).

• **SOUTHERN NH WOOL SPINNERS** meet at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us) on the first and third Wed. of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Beginners always welcome. Contact Elizabeth at eeskipper@comcast.net.

DINNER FOR FIDO



Take a night out for some Italian food and help animals in need. On Monday, Dec. 10, from 6 to 8 p.m., Florence's Restaurant (465 DW Highway, Merrimack) will host a benefit dinner to support the Humane Society for Greater Nashua. Tickets to the dinner are \$45 and the shelter will receive 50 percent of the proceeds. Call 889-2275, ext. 35, or visit www.hsfhn.org.

Other

• **BASKET-WEAVING CLASS** at the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Retail Gallery, 98 Main St., Nashua, with Ruth Bolland on Thursdays (6:15-9:15 p.m.) and Fridays (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) year-round. Tuition is \$20 per class. Students can choose from numerous skill-level appropriate projects and progress at their own pace with teacher assistance. All levels from beginner to advanced are welcome. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **LADIES NIGHT** You're Fired Studio (133 Loudon Road, Concord; 25 S. River Road, Bedford, and 264 N. Broadway, Salem, yourefirednh.com) on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-9 p.m. Half-off studio fee for ladies. Adults only. Call 641-FIRE (Bedford), 226-FIRE (Concord) or 894-KILN (Salem).

• **MAKE YOUR OWN MOBILE** at Trumpet Gallery (8 Grove St., Peterborough) every Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. Learn the craft from Mike Teitsch, a kinetic sculptor. Admission is \$30 and prior registration is required at least two weeks in advance. Call 924-9862 or email monaadisabrooks@gmail.com.

• **WEAVING** Floor and Table Loom at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com) on Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 p.m. Six weekly two-hour sessions cost \$120. Looms are available for class use and to use at home. Call 505-4432.

• **GLASS CANDY CANES AND ICICLES** at Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Rt. 123, Sharon), Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Learn how to create glass ornaments with a winter theme. Enrollment is \$66 with a \$30 materials fee. Call 924-7256, email register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **MOSAIC BIRDHOUSE** at Kast Hill Studio (195 Kast Hill Road, Hopkinton), Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 9, 9-11 a.m. Class is

\$45. Create a birdhouse using mosaic techniques. Call 746-6745, email lizzvansaun@tds.net or visit www.kasthillstudio.com.

• **PRECIOUS METAL CLAY PENDANTS** at Sharon Arts Center (457 Route 123, Sharon), Sat., Dec. 8, and Sun., Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Learn how to create jewelry pieces with precious metal clay pendants. Enrollment is \$138. Call 924-7256, email register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **FUN WITH WIRE** at Sharon Arts Center (457 Route 123, Sharon) Sun., Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Learn how to use wire to create jewelry and accessories. Admission is \$78 with a \$20 materials fee. Call 924-7256, email register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **CREATING BOXWOOD TREES** at Moulton Farm (18 Quarry Road, Meredith) Wed., Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. Learn how to create a Christmas tree shaped centerpiece. Admission is \$30. Call 279-3915 or visit www.moultonfarm.com.

• **MOSAIC SHELF** at Kast Hill Studio (195 Kast Hill Road, Hopkinton), Sat., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 16, 9-11 a.m. Create a shelf for your house using mosaic techniques. Class is \$50. Call 746-6745, email lizzvansaun@tds.net or visit www.kasthillstudio.com.

• **FABRIC PAINTING AND DECORATION** at the League of NH Craftsmen Meredith Retail Gallery (279 DW Hwy., Meredith), Sat., Dec. 15, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Learn how create and paint unique Christmas ornaments out of fabric and paint. The session will be led by Elena Wikstrom. Call 279-7920 or visit www.nhcrafts.org/localsites/meredith/index.html.

• **BEAD PLAYDATE** at Bead Bush Studio (43 Mount Delight Road, Deerfield), every Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon. Create bead projects and get help with existing projects. Admission is free and registration is not required.

Call 463-7683 or visit www.beadbush.com.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Workshops & events

• **WORLD MEDITATION** at the Holistic Self Care Center (12 Murphy Drive, Nashua) Wed., Dec. 12, noon-1 p.m., and 6-7 p.m. Meditate and send positive thoughts for the future. Call 883-1490, email info@thehscenter.org or visit www.thehscenter.com.

• **BROWN BAG LUNCH** at the Women Supporting Women Center (111 Water St., Exeter) on the second Thursday of each month, noon-1 p.m. Meet new people and have conversations during the day. Prior registration is required. Call 772-0799, email info@wscenter.com or visit www.wscenter.com.

• **HYPNOSIS FOR WEIGHT LOSS** every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., 1 and 7 p.m. at the New You Center For Hypnosis (3 Webb Place, Suite 4, Dover). Price varies. Each participant will also receive a "home hypnosis session" on CD. Call 749-MIND. No walk-ins.

• **NEW THOUGHT CIRCLE** each Thursday at the Women Supporting Women Center (111 Water St., Exeter), 9:30-11 a.m. Learn about new universal spiritual concepts with the Rev. Claire Houston. Admission is \$10. Call 772-0799, email info@wscenter.com or visit www.wscenter.com.

LANGUAGE

• **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE** classes at 168 S. River Road, Bedford. Also offers tutoring, private lessons, workshops and online classes. See teachmesignlanguage.com.

• **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE** at the Adult Learning Center, 4 Lake St., Nashua. Six-week class focuses on basic signing techniques and interpretation, as well as deaf cultural awareness. The cost of the course is \$90 plus a book fee. Call 882-9080, ext. 201.

• **CHINESE** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m. Visit nashualibrary.org/directions.htm or call 589-4610.

• **CHINESE** language programs from the Derry Chinese School, including preschool, elementary, intermediate, teen and adult programs, in Derry. All classes are Saturday mornings at the Marion Gerrish Community Center (39 W. Broadway, Derry). Call 888-928-8470 and visit derrychinese-school.org.

• **CHINESE** classes at Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester, include conversational Chinese for young learners, as well as advanced study of Chinese language and literature. To register, contact Ying Xia Peterson at 224-0164 or yxpeterson@comcast.net.

• **CHINESE MANDARIN** classes at NH Chinese School (in Concord at West Congregational Church, 499 N. State St.; in Nashua at Girls Inc. of NH, 27 Burke St.; in Manchester,

Belknap Hall at Southern New Hampshire University, 2500 N. River Road) on weeknights and Saturdays. Levels range from preschool to adult, beginner to advanced. Classes run year-round. Visit nhChineseSchool.org or call 557-3836.

• **ENGLISH** for speakers of other languages on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Gilbert H. Hood Middle School (5 Hood Road, Derry). Offered through Derry Center for Adult Studies. Registration is at the first class. Call 432-1907 or email rcatp2@yahoo.com.

• **ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE** classes are offered at the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton). Offered through the Friends of the Wilton Library. Call Bevan Buffum at 654-5811.

• **ESPERANTO** international language courses at the American-Canadian Genealogical Society, 4 Elm St., Manchester. Register by email to Jack Stanton at cw3jack_stan@mind-spring.com.

• **FRENCH** Franco-American Centre (Manchester, 641-7114, facnh.com) offers adult and youth classes for beginner through advanced learners. Tuition is \$250 for eight weeks. Most classes are 75 minutes. There is a mandatory yearly student membership fee of \$35. To register, call the center or email Pauline Guimond Grant, French classes coordinator, at cpgrant@comcast.net.

• **FRENCH** Club Richelieu for French speakers in Greater Nashua holds dinner meetings at 6 p.m. on second Wednesdays at the Radisson, 11 Tara Blvd., Nashua. Call 889-7112.

• **BEGINNER FRENCH** at the Trumpet Gallery (8 Grove St., Peterborough) Thursdays 5:45-6:45 p.m. Cost is \$40 for four sessions. Call 924-9862 to register.

• **CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH** at the Trumpet Gallery (8 Grove St., Peterborough) Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m. Session topics will be travel, art, music and books. Cost is \$40 for four sessions. Call 924-9862 to register.

• **GAELIC** classes on Sundays, 1:30-3 p.m. and 3-4:30 p.m., at 180 Woodbury St., No. 327, Manchester, and Sundays, 3:15-4:45 p.m., and 4:45-6:15 p.m., at 4 Elm St., Manchester. Email eolas@gaelge.org.

• **GERMAN** NHGA German School offers classes at the Currier Museum for adult beginners with no knowledge of German, those with limited abilities, and those at advanced levels. Classes are conducted using German textbooks in an informal, speech-intensive manner, emphasizing German conversation, traditions and culture. Visit nhgerman.org.

• **GREEK** classes for adults (beginner & intermediate) meet Mondays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral (650 Hanover St., Manchester). Reinforce and review your conversation & writing skills. Free. Call 497-4581.

• **HEBREW** at Congregation Betenu (5 Northern Blvd., Amherst, 886-1633, betenu.org). Hebrew language instruction; reading, writing, gram-

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-Wanda M.

New bear in town

Extreme sports apparel company jams in Manchester

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

Whether it’s building snow-board rails in his backyard or hosting an impromptu lesson on how to pull off a 360 on a BMX bike, Stevo Shaw lives for action sports.

Just over a month ago, Shaw and business partner Kelly Qualey founded GnarBear, an extreme sports apparel company that plans to also host events, teach lessons and even develop a team of local athletes.

GnarBear’s debut on the Manchester action sports scene was with the Turkey Shred, a rail jam it hosted at McIntyre Ski Area Nov. 24. Shaw said he wanted to make sure the company’s first event was a hit and developed specially designed rails for the jam.

Having been a ski and snowboard instructor for 10 years, Shaw said he often hears complaints over how “sticky” rails can be if they are not properly waxed. With a combination of snowboard expertise and a degree in chemistry, he was able to design rails coated with a blend of plastic that is significantly more slippery than the standard high-density polyethylene that coats most rails.

“It’s all about progressing the sport and how to do it better,”

Shaw said.

Ross Boisvert, vice president and general manager of McIntyre Ski Area, said the jam brought in about 40 participants and between 40 to 70 audience members. Organizers brought in ice shavings from a local ice arena to make up for the lack of snow, and GnarBear did the rest.

“We provided the space and the ice shavings, and they did all the promotion and recruiting,” Boisvert said.

The rails Shaw built for the jam will stay at McIntyre, and Boisvert said they will be added to the mountain’s collection in its terrain park.

Shaw and Qualey are in the process of scheduling more GnarBear rail jams at mountains throughout New Hampshire. Qualey said much like the first jam, skiers and snowboarders won’t have to pay any extra to join a jam and can just show up and ride.

To supplement the events aspect of the business, the pair has developed a line of apparel, including GnarBear T-shirts and hoodies. Shaw said the hope is that extreme sports fans will want to purchase the clothes, which in turn will help fund future events that will be free to attend.

Qualey said that GnarBear didn’t want to focus on a specific

GnarBear Rail Jam

Where: McIntyre Ski Area, 50 Chalet Way, Manchester

When: Saturday, Dec. 22, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Admission: Free to watch and ride. Visitors are asked to bring gently used winter clothing for the Salvation Army.

Visit: www.gnarbear.com or email mamabear@gnarbear.com.

sport because one of the company’s goals is to promote all action sports. There are many parallels in the extreme sports world anyway, Qualey said, and she wants to help bridge those gaps.

“The links between the sports are very similar,” Qualey said. “The same urban feel of skateboarding is now starting to transfer over to snowboarding. We want to take components of what we’re doing and continue it throughout the year.”

In fact, the company’s name stems from the connections between extreme sports. As a surfer, Shaw said he has been hearing terms like “gnarly” and “beast” on the waves for years, and now those words have found their way to the terrain parks and skate parks. Because the company is based in New England, Shaw said the bear would be a good mascot, but when he and Qualey



A snowboarder gets some air at the first GnarBear rail jam at McIntyre Ski Area. Matt Thoman photo.

were designing the logo, he wanted to make sure the final product looked “gnarly” enough to market to the extreme sports community.

Qualey said that as the company continues to grow, future goals include developing GnarBear

teams in all extreme sports and developing a GnarBear clinic program called CUBS, which stands for Come Up Bear Style. The clinics will teach young skiers and riders how they can have fun in an intimidating terrain park. 🐻

mar, comprehension, conversational vocabulary, biblical insights and more for ages 13 and older on Monday evenings. Classes are taught by veteran instructor, Rahel. Call 886-1633, email betenu@nii.net or visit betenu.org.

• **IRISH** Conradh na Gaeilge of New England, a nonprofit Irish language organization, offers low-cost Irish (Gaelic) language classes for all levels in Manchester. Go to gaeilge.org/manchester.html or call 508-797-9482.

• **ITALIAN** conversation group at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, meets Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Contact Carol at carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org or 589-4610.

• **ITALIAN** Bedford Italian Cultural Society holds monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Bedford Public Library on Meetinghouse Road. Parliamo Italiano chat sessions meet every Wednesday 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Bedford Public Library.

Membership is \$15 per year. Contact Virginia at 472-2592 or visit BICS website at bics-nh.org.

• **LITHUANIAN** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Meets Saturdays at 10 a.m. Visit nashualibrary.org or call Carol at 589-4610.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES** All Learners, LLC, 15 Constitution Drive, Bedford, offers French and Spanish classes. Adult classes are on Tuesday evenings. Preregistration is required. Call 986-7001 or email office@all-learners.com.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES** Concord Community Education (170 Warren St., 225-0804, classesforlife.com) regularly offers courses in languages.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES** “I Can Speak” language-learning software is available at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org) for Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Russian and

Portuguese. The software consists of 20 to 40 hours of intro material using listening, speaking, reading and writing exercises.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES** at New England Language Center in Rochester offers classes in conversational Spanish, German, Russian, French, Italian, Portuguese, Swahili and English as a Second Language (ESL). Classes are available in eight-week sessions or flexible, individual instruction.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES ONLINE** at Rodgers Memorial Library, Derry Road, Hudson. Mango Language Learning System teaches foreign language (Spanish, French, Italian, German, Japanese, Chinese and Russian) and ESL conversational skills. Patrons can visit the library or log on from home through the library’s website at rodgerslibrary.org. Call 886-6030.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES ONLINE** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford.

Includes Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Haitian Creole, French, Irish and Greek. Free for library cardholders. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **SPANISH** conversation group at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) meets Tuesday nights, at 7 p.m. Each meeting will have a theme, giving people with intermediate skills an opportunity to practice the language. Call Carol at 589-4610.

• **SPANISH CONVERSATION** Adult Learning Center, 4 Lake St., Nashua. Beginner and intermediate conversation classes offered. The cost of the course is \$90 plus a book fee. Call 598-8303 or visit adultlearningcenter.org.

• **SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP** at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford) meets Tuesdays in the conference from 7-8 p.m.

MARKETING & BUSINESS

Networking

• **HOLIDAY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS** at Daniel’s Restaurant and Pub (48 Main St., Henniker) Thurs., Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. Hosted by the Henniker Chamber of Commerce, visit the restaurant and network with area businesses. Admission is \$10 with a donation to the Henniker Food Pantry and \$15 without a donation. Email RSVP@hennikerchamber.org or visit www.hennikerchamber.org.

• **SBA CONSULTATIONS** at the NH Secretary of State Corporate Division (25 Capitol St., Third Floor, Concord) Thurs., Dec. 6, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Dec. 13, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Dec. 20, 3-4 p.m., and Dec. 27, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Learn information about how to start or expand a business. Admission is free and appointments are not required. Call 225-1601 or email miguel.moralez@sba.gov.

• **MONTHLY BROWN BAG LUNCH** held by Women Supporting Women at 111 Water St., Suite 2, Exeter, on the 2nd Thursday of the month, noon-1 p.m. Register by emailing info@wswwcenter.com, calling 772-0799 or visiting wswwcenter.com.

• **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS** hosted monthly by the Peterborough Chamber of Commerce. Call 924-7234 for dates and locations.

• **CONCORD YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK** personal development initiative of the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce that offers networking, community involvement and social opportunities. Once a month, CYPN holds networking and enrichment events at Concord venues where young professionals of all ages (generally 22-40s) can interact socially, build a contact base and exchange ideas. Visit concordypn.org or call the chamber at 224-2508.

FASHION FORWARD



Celebrities, fashion and a good cause will all be part of one event on Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Sizzle Bistro (1 Highlander Way, Manchester). The New Hampshire Prostate Cancer Coalition will host a fashion show by Statement and George's Apparel. After the fashion show, *American Idol* contestant Skylar Laine will be on hand to meet with those in attendance. Celebrity designer Alan Scott will also be in attendance to show some of his work. Tickets are \$25 prior to the event and are available at Chill Day Spa (1224 Hanover St., Manchester), Statement (34 Hanover St., Manchester) and George's Apparel (675 Elm St., Manchester). Tickets will be \$35 at the door. Proceeds will benefit the New Hampshire Prostate Cancer Coalition. Visit www.nhprostatecancer.org. Pictured: Alan Scott and Skylar Laine. Courtesy photo.

• **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS** Profile Chapter meets the first Wednesday of the month (Sept. through June) from 6 to 8 p.m. Meetings include networking, a light dinner, an educational program and a business meeting. Guests can attend the first two meetings for free; the meal is optional. An RSVP is appreciated for planning purposes. See profile-iaap.org.

• **MANCHESTER YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK** holds social and business events monthly. Visit mynpn.org or call 942-2485.

• **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZERS** holds monthly meetings on third Tuesday of each month except July, 6-8 p.m. at Brady-Sullivan Tower, 1750 Elm St., Manchester. No charge for members; \$10 charge for guests.

• **ONE MORE REFERRAL** is a business networking group. The Dover chapter meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at Café on the Corner.

• **START-UP ABI HUB MEETUP GROUP** is organized by the people at abi Innovation Hub for entrepreneurs and professionals to gather for lunch, free wi-fi and to chat about what's new. Entrepreneurial, innovative and creative communities around Man-

chester are welcome to join Wednesdays at noon at abi. Contact Jamie Coughlin at jamie@abihub.org.

Personal finance

• **ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS** at Millyard Technology Park, Pine Street Ext., Nashua. For programs in computer training (intro to the PC, Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint and Outlook), call 594-8513 or email jbarrett@snhs.org. For programs in financial literacy and educational goals (borrowing money, establishing good credit, and developing a personal budget plan), call Jennifer Spencer, 886-2866. For info about starting a small business and self-employment, call Sara Varela, 800-769-3482. For programs in ESL and learning conversational English and life skills, call 594-8513 or email jbarrett@snhs.org.

• **MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE** (1066 Front St., Manchester, 668-6706, manchestercommunitycollege.edu) offers classes in personal financial management. Call for availability.

• **UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION** (877-398-4769, extension.unh.edu) offers classes in personal finance and investing. See schedule on website.

Trade Shows & Expos

• **NH FOR THE HOLIDAYS EXPO** Dec. 8-9 at the Radisson Hotel/Center of NH Expo Center in Manchester (700 Elm St., 625-1000). Businesses can introduce products and services to thousands of gift-buying attendees, wholesale and retail buyers and hundreds of other business owners. Companies from all over New England are eligible to participate; visit EventsNH.com or call 626-6354, ext. 224.

Workshops

• **LOCAL EXPERT SERIES** at the Dover Chamber of Commerce (550 Central Ave., Dover), on the fourth Wednesday of each month, noon-1:30 p.m. Learn about a different business topic from a local member of the Chamber. Admission is \$10.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bake sales / fundraisers

• **SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER** at Seymour Osman Community Center (40 Hampshire Circle, Dover) Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Visit the center and bid on a variety of items. Proceeds benefit community programs. Call 749-6692 or visit thad@doverhousingauthority.org.

• **HUMANE SOCIETY BENEFIT DINNER** at Florence's Restaurant (465 DW Hwy., Merrimack) Mon., Dec. 10, 6-8 p.m. Admission is \$45 and the Humane Society of Greater Nashua shelter will receive 50 percent. Call 889-BARK or email noelle@hsfn.org.

• **DOLL CLOTHES RAFFLE** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson). The Drop-in Stitchers have supplied a basket of clothes for an 18-inch doll that will be raffled off to support the library's children's room. Tickets cost \$1 (or six for \$5) and a winner will be selected Fri., Dec. 14. Call 886-6030.

• **HOLIDAY COSMIC BOWLATHON** at Strikers East (4 Essex Drive, Raymond) Tues., Dec. 18, 7-10 p.m. Admission is \$25 and benefits the High Hopes Foundation. Call High Hopes at 429-1010 or Strikers East at 895-9501.

Holiday

• **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS** at the Simon Center Great Room of New England College (98 Bridge St., Henniker) Thurs., Dec. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Food and activities will be available and a variety of items will be up for a silent auction. Proceeds from the auction benefit a student learning service trip to Nicaragua. Visit www.nec.edu.

• **HOLIDAY MARKET** at Brady Sullivan Plaza (1000 Elm St., Manchester) on Thursdays, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Visit with crafters, artisans and bakers. Visit www.intownmanchester.com.

• **CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (90 Clinton St., Concord) Fri., Dec. 7, 6-8 p.m. Visit the church for a non-denominational open house event featuring a movie, live music and a nativity display. Admission is

free. Contact Cherie Pernaw at 520-8253.

• **MIDNIGHT MERRIMENT** in Downtown Concord on Fri., Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m. Visit downtown for holiday events and activities with local businesses. The Winter Giftopolis, an extension of the Concord Arts Market will feature a variety of handmade crafts at 7 Eagle Square. Admission is free. Visit www.intownconcord.org.

• **HOLIDAY SHOPPING TOUR** in downtown Warner, Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Downtown businesses will celebrate local food and crafts. Call 540-1156.

• **MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE** at the North Conway Community Center (2628 White Mountain Highway, North Conway) Sat., Dec. 8, at 9:30 a.m. Check out the selection of holiday gifts, plants and ornaments. The event runs until everything is sold out, which typically is at 11:30 a.m. Call 374-9042 or visit www.mountaingardenclub.org.

• **CHRISTMAS AT CANTERBURY** at Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road, Canterbury) Sat., Dec. 8, and Sat., Dec. 15, 3-8 p.m. Visit the Shaker Village for horse-drawn carriage rides, performances and crafts. Admission is \$17 for adults, \$8 for ages 6-17 and free for children younger than 5. Call 783-9511 or visit www.shakers.org.

• **NH FOR THE HOLIDAYS EXPO** at the Radisson Hotel (700 Elm St., Manchester) Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Live entertainment, decorated holiday displays and a model train exhibit will highlight the event featuring items from local businesses. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$4 for ages 3-12 and free for those younger than 3. Call 626-6354, ext. 224.

• **CHRISTMAS FAIR** at Greenland Community Congregational Church (44 Post Road, Greenland), Sat., Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Enjoy handmade crafts and food and visit with Santa Claus. There is no fee to attend. Call 436-8336 or visit www.community-churchofgreenland.org.

• **LIGHTS ON THE HILL** at the corner of High Street and South Road in Candia, Sat., Dec. 8, and Sun., Dec. 9, 4-8 p.m. Visit Candia's 19th-century buildings as they are lit up for the holidays and take in Christmas displays and music. Admission is free. Call 483-0506.

• **FESTIVAL OF TREES** at the Wright Museum (77 Center St., Wolfeboro) Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun., Dec. 9, noon-3 p.m., Sat., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 16, noon-3 p.m. Check out a variety of decorated trees and live entertainment. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children 8 and younger. Family admission is \$12. Call 515-1088 or visit www.wolfeborofestivaloftrees.com.

• **WREATHS AROUND THE WADLEIGH SILENT AUCTION** at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford) through Sun.,

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR EVENT DETAILS!

UNLIMITED WINTER MEMBERSHIPS ARE HERE!
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We specialize in FUN – parties and gatherings of all nature and sizes...so come PLAY, RUN, JUMP, SKIP and LAUGH!

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GV Boys Team Fundraiser
Dec. 1st: 4-8pm

Pictures With Santa
Dec 2nd: 1-2:30pm.
Reservations Required

Parents Night Out
Dec. 7th: 6-10pm.
Registration Required

Family Movie Night
Dec. 15th: 5pm

Visit our website for all event details

Dec. 24th: Open 9am-3pm
Closed Dec. 25th - "Happy Holidays!"

746 D.W. Highway
Merrimack, NH 03054
www.nuthinbutgoodtimes.com

Dec. 9. The library will be decorated by wreaths made by residents and businesses that will be up for auction. Wreaths can be picked up on Wed., Dec. 12. Proceeds will benefit the library.

- **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS** at the Mariposa Museum (26 Main St., Peterborough) Sun., Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. Visit the museum to learn about holiday traditions from around the world that use some element of light. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Visit www.mariposamuseum.org.

- **HOLIDAY HOME TOUR** on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m. The Palace Theatre and local businesses are sponsoring the tour, which begins at Ira Lexus (18 Kilton Road, Bedford) and will visit four Bedford homes decorated for the holidays. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 on the day of the tour. Visit www.palacetheatre.org.

- **JOYEUX NOEL** at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Exeter (12 Elm St., Exeter) Fri., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. Learn about the Christmas truce between the French, German and British during World War I. Admission is free. Call 335-6240, email bmoores628@comcast.net or visit www.seacoastpeaceeresponse.org.

- **YULETIDE GALA** at Grapone Conference Center (70 Constitution Ave., Concord) Sat., Dec. 15, 7-11 p.m. featuring live and silent auction and music from Nazy of WJYY radio. Tickets are \$50 per person, \$80 per couple. Proceeds benefit Concord area women and children in crisis. Call 568-2130 or visit www.jslconcord.org.

- **LIVE NATIVITY EVENT** at Middle Street Baptist Church (18 Court St., Portsmouth), Sat., Dec. 15, at 3:30, 4:30 or 5:30 p.m. Event is free. Refreshments and fellowship served inside the church. Visit www.middlestreet-baptist.org.

- **CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN STARK PARK** at Stark Park (River Road, Manchester) Sun., Dec. 16, 4-5 p.m. Visit the park and listen to carols sung by a local community chorus group. Admission is free. Visit www.friendsofstarkpark.org.

- **PEACE LIGHT FROM BETHLEHEM** at Bedford Presbyterian Church (4 Church Road, Bedford), Sun., Dec. 16, 4-7 p.m. Bring your own oil lantern to be lit. Email Gretchen Osgood at pack114den7@gmail.com.

- **CHRISTMAS TREE SALE** at Lafayette Plaza on Route 1 in Portsmouth, through Fri., Dec. 21. The lot will be open Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Sale is presented by the Portsmouth Rotary Club.

- **PHYZGIG FESTIVAL SOUTH** at the West End Studio Theatre (959 Islington St., Ports-

mouth) Wed., Dec. 26, through Sun., Dec. 30, at 2 p.m. The festival is family-oriented and features magic and vaudeville style acts. Tickets are \$15. Call 436-6660, email info@pontine.org or visit www.pontine.org.

Pets

- **CANINE MESSAGE** Learn about a dog's total wellness from Tracey Brown, who works primarily through Baker Wells Animal Hospital, Hampton Falls/Seabrook, 978-337-7965, paws-in-hand.com.

- **DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES** at Greater Derry Humane Society, Salty Lane Farm, Lane Road, Derry, on Monday evenings. Cost is \$75 for six-week sessions. Registration required, and dog must be current with all inoculations. Owner must accompany pets. Learn grooming, body language, behavioral modification, discipline, nutrition and more. Call 432-1512 or visit derryhumanesociety.com.

- **FELINE ADOPTIONS** with Animal Allies, 476 Front St., Manchester, on Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m., and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

- **FREE SPAY/NEUTER FOR PIT BULLS** at the Manchester Animal Shelter (490 Dunbarton Road, Manchester, 628-3544, manchesteranimalshelter.org). The Friends of the Manchester Animal Shelter is sponsoring Fix-a-Pit, the city's spay/neuter program free of cost to pit bull owners who live in Manchester. Fix-a-Pit will provide city pit bull owners with a free spay/neuter, rabies vaccine and a microchip. Call 628-3544.

- **HORSE/FARM ANIMAL CLINICS** at Gelinas Farm, 471 4th Range Road, Pembroke, 225-7024, gelinasfarm.com. Maneuvering obstacles, cow work, ranch shows and horsemanship, as well as youth farm camps. Call or visit the website for a schedule.
- **LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER** is available through the Greater Derry Humane Society. Call 434-1512.

- **PET FIRST AID** classes from NH Gateway Chapter of Red Cross (28 Concord St., Nashua, 889-6664, nashua.redcross.org). Classes include dog or cat first aid.

- **SPCA PETCO DAY** on the third Saturday of each month, at Petco, 34 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, 225-7355. Visit with Concord-Merrimack County SPCA volunteers and meet adoptable pets.

- **VETERINARY EMERGENCY CENTER OF MANCHESTER** 336 Abby Road, Manchester. Call 666-6677.

Other

- **SILENT AUCTION/DINNER FOR CHARITY** at The White

TOUR WARNER



Visit downtown Warner Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4p.m. for a day of holiday festivities. The Holiday Shopping Tour will feature a farmers' and artisans' market, and downtown businesses will be open. Check out horse and carriage rides, activities, crafts and visit the Festival of Trees at town hall (5 East Main St., Warner). Visit www.mainstreetbookends.com/event/holiday-shopping-tour.

Birch Catering and Banquet Hall (222 Central St., Hudson) Thurs., Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. Presented by the Greater Hudson Chamber of Commerce, the event will feature dinner and silent auction and raffle items. Proceeds benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which provides help to local families in need. Admission is \$25. Call 889-4731 or visit www.hudsonchamber.com.

- **PIANO WORKSHOP WEEK** at the Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord) through Fri., Dec. 7. Visit the school throughout the week for free piano workshops. Visit www.ccmusicschool.com.

- **PAMPERED PARANORMAL PAJAMA PARTY** at the Black Swan Inn (354 W. Main St., Tilton) Sat., Dec. 8, 5-11 p.m. For girls and women only, visit the Inn for an event hosted by CC The Huntress. Lectures, dinner and a ghost hunt. Admission is \$40 with a separate charge to stay over at the inn. Visit www.ccthehuntress.com.

- **SHOP IN PEACE AND GIVE BACK** at Banyan Tree Yoga (505 West Hollis St., Suite 106, Nashua) Sat., Dec. 8, 1:30-5 p.m. Local vendors, authors and massage will be available and raffle tickets to benefit charities. Call 889-1121, email info@banyantreeyoganh.com or visit www.banyantreeyoga.com.

- **RUSSIAN TEA** at the New England Language Center Art Gallery (16 Hillside Drive, Rochester) Sat., Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. Visit the traditional Russian tea event and learn about local artist Marina Forbes' annual cultural trip to Russia. Admission is free. Call 332-2255 or email marina@any-language.org.

- **DEVELOPMENTAL RED FLAGS** at the VNA Child Care Center (435 South Main St.,

Manchester) Tues., Dec. 11, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Presented by the Parent Information Center of NH, learn the signs of developmental issues in children. Admission is free, but prior registration is required. Call 224-7005 or email frontdesk@picnh.org.

- **SPECIAL EDUCATION WORKSHOP** at Bedford Safety Complex (55 Constitution Drive, Bedford) Wed., Dec. 12, 9-10:30 a.m. Presented by the Parent Information Center of NH, learn the basics of the state's special education process. Admission is free, but prior registration is required. Call 224-7005 or email frontdesk@picnh.org.

- **LIFE IN PARIS** at Hooksett Library (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett), Thurs., Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m. Visit with Henry Smith, a professor interested in the lives of the French. Admission is free. Visit www.hookset-tlibrary.org.

- **HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPEN HOUSE** at the Rochester Historical Society (58 Hanson St., Rochester) Thurs., Dec. 13, from 1 to 6 p.m. The society building will be decorated for the holidays. Call 330-3099 or visit www.rochesterhistoricalnh.org.

- **COMMUNITY HU CHANT** on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn (2280 Brown Ave., Manchester). Call 800-713-8944 or visit www.eckankar-nh.org.

- **ECKANKAR WORSHIP SERVICE** on the second Sunday of the month at 11 a.m., at the Holiday Inn (2280 Brown Ave., Manchester). Call 800-713-8944 or visit www.eckankar-nh.org.

MUSEUMS & TOURS

- **Canterbury Shaker Village** 288 Shaker Road, Canterbury, 783-9511, shakers.org
- **McAuliffe-Shepard**

Discovery Center

2 Institute Drive, Concord, starhop.com, 271-7831

- **Currier Museum of Art** 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org

- **Laconia Historical & Museum Society** in the Laconia Public Library at 695 Main St. in Laconia, 527-1278, laconiahistorical.org

- **Langer Place** 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 626-4388, langer-place.com

- **Lee Scouting Museum & Library** 571 Holt Ave., Manchester, 669-8919, scoutingmuseum.org

- **Manchester City Hall** One City Hall Plaza, off Hanover St. in Manchester, 624-6455

- **Millyard Museum/Manchester Historic Association** 200 Bedford St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org

- **New England Synthesizer Museum** 6 Vernon St., Nashua, 881-8587, synthmuseum.com

- **New Hampshire Aviation Museum**

South Perimeter Road, Manchester, 669-4820, nhahs.org

- **New Hampshire Snowmobile Association Museum** Beaver Brook State Park Museum Complex off Route 28, Allentown, 648-2304, nhsnowmobilemuseum.com

- **Museum of NH History** 6 Eagle Square, Concord, 228-6688, nhhistory.org
- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**

18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org

- **Seacoast African American Cultural Center** 135 Daniel St., Portsmouth, 430-6027, saacc-nh.org
- **SEE Science Center** 200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org

- **Speare Museum** 5 Abbott St., Nashua, 883-0015, nashuahistoricalsociety.org

- **U.S. Marconi Museum** 14 N. Amherst St., Bedford, 472-8312, marconiusa.org

Exhibits

- **NASHUA TRADE CARDS EXHIBIT** at Nashua City Hall (229 Main St., Nashua), on display through Dec. 31 in the Nashua Historical Society case. The exhibit features trade cards from Nashua businesses that have been collected throughout the city's history. City Hall is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. There is no charge to view the display.
- **VOICES ON THE FRONT: NH AND THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR** is on view at the NH Historical Society's museum at 6 Eagle Square, Concord, through Dec. 31. Admission is \$5.50 (\$3 for children). Call 856-0604.

Ongoing

- **BOOTT DISCOVERY TRAIL** Pick up work aprons and time cards at the museum entrance and, through hands-on activities, explore how raw cotton was made into finished cloth at Lowell National Historical Park.

- **CONVENTION MEMORABILIA DISPLAY** in the Speare Museum of the Nashua Historical Society features nearly 250 political items drawn from the Republican National Conventions of 1988 in New Orleans and 2008 in Minneapolis-St. Paul. The exhibit will be open Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and by appointment some Saturdays. Call 883-0015.

- **GOV. JOHN LANGDON HOUSE** in Portsmouth is a national historic landmark featuring a Georgian mansion where John Langdon resided. Open Friday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$6. Call 436-3205.

- **HISTORICAL ROOMS** at the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), Thursdays, 1:30-6 p.m. Operated by the Wilton Historical Society, the rooms house many artifacts from the town's history.

- **JOHN PAUL JONES HOUSE** in Portsmouth features artifacts from the Portsmouth Peace Treaty of 1905 and from John Paul Jones, an American naval hero. Open 7 days a week, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$6. Call 436-8420.

- **LEGO MILLYARD PROJECT** representing Manchester's downtown and Amoskeag Millyard as they might have looked circa 1900, on display at SEE Science Center (200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400), open weekdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., see-sciencecenter.org. This 55-to-1 scale model is the largest permanent Lego installation at miniature scale in the world.

- **MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY** holds open houses the second weekend of each month, April through December, from 2 to 4 p.m. The Historical Society is in the Carey House at 6 Union St., Milford. Admission is free. Go to milfordnhhistory.org.

- **MOFFATT-LADD HOUSE & GARDENS** in Portsmouth is a national historic landmark. The house is furnished as it was in 1763. Tours go for an hour and are held Mon. through Sat., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. House and garden tours cost \$6. Call 436-8221 or go to moffatladd.org.

- **NEW ENGLAND SYNTHESIZER MUSEUM** features vintage synthesizers at 6 Vernon St., Nashua, 881-8587, synthmuseum.com. Call for appointment. Email dwilsynth@aol.com.
- **USS ALBACORE** in Ports-

mouth is a historical vessel worth visiting. The park is open 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. every day from Memorial Day to Columbus Day. Admission is \$5. Call 436-3680 or go to ussalbacore.org.

- **WARNER HOUSE** in Portsmouth is the earliest extant brick urban mansion in New England. Open Wednesday through Monday from noon to 4 p.m. Admission price is \$5. Call 436-5909 or go to warnerhouse.org.

Tours

- **CLYDESDALE CAMERA DAY** at Anheuser-Busch (221 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 595-1202, budweisertours.com) on the first Saturday of every month from 1 to 3 p.m. Bring a camera and pose for a photo with a world-famous Budweiser Clydesdale.
- **EDUCATIONAL FARM AT JOPPA HILL** (174 Joppa Hill Road, 472-4724, Bedford) is a nonprofit organization operated exclusively for the charitable and educational purposes of increasing public awareness of sustainable agriculture. Farm tours are given daily to children and adults. Classes in sustainable organic agriculture and horsemanship lessons are available.
- **PORTSMOUTH BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL** is a self-guided walking tour through neighborhoods where Portsmouth's black residents lived, worked and celebrated. Call 431-2768 or go to pbhtrail.org.

NATURE & GARDENING

- **Amoskeag Fishways**
6 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-FISH, amoskeagfishways.org
- **Beaver Brook Association**
117 Ridge Road, Hollis, 465-7787, beaverbrook.org.
- **Charmingfare Farm**
Route 27, Candia, 483-5623, visitthefarm.com
- **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center**
2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-STAR, starhop.com
- **Educational Farm at Joppa Hill**
174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford,

- 472-4724, theeducationalfarm.org
- **Friends of Stark Park**
North River Road, Manchester, 645-6700, friendsofstarkpark.org
 - **Londonderry Trailways**
PO Box 389, Londonderry, londonderrytrails.org
 - **Manchester Historic Association**
129 Amherst St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org
 - **Massabesic Audubon Center**
26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, nhudubon.org
 - **McLane Center**
84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, nhudubon.org
 - **Peabody Mill Environmental Center**
66 Brook Road, Amherst, 673-1141, pmec.org
 - **Seacoast Science Center**
570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, seacoastsciencecenter.org
 - **Society for the Protection of NH Forests**
224-9945, spnhf.org

Animals/insects/plants

- **RAVEN FEEDING** at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Amherst, 668-2045, nhadubon.org) every Sunday at 12:30 p.m. Watch as feeders give the raven his daily meal. Free.
- **SHOREBIRDS FIELD TRIP** Massabesic Audubon Center, 26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, offers regular field trips to look for birds at the shore. Costs \$15.
- **SNAKE FEEDING** at Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Amherst, 668-2045, nhadubon.org) every Sunday, 11:30 a.m. Watch the ball pythons eat lunch and even get to touch them. Free.
- **EVOLUTION OF BALEEN WHALES EXHIBITION** at the Seacoast Science Center (570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, ext. 12). Learn about humpback whales' ancient ancestors. Exhibition includes a life-sized model of Ambulocetus, the first whale ancestor, a video and three new toothed-whale skeletons.

- **OTTER ENRICHMENT** at Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 11:30 a.m. Learn about river otters and watch as a live otter eats. Admission is \$15 (\$12 for ages 65+, \$10 for ages 3-15, free for 2 and younger). Call 968-7194 or visit www.nhnature.org.

Photography

- **WILD NH PHOTO CONTEST AND AUCTION** at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn) will show approximately 100 amateur photos of nature in New Hampshire through Sun., Dec. 9. Displayed photos are available through a fundraising silent auction. Call 668-2045.
- **MASSABESIC AUDUBON CENTER** (26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, nhadubon.org) occasionally offers classes on nature photography and nature writing.
- **OUTDOOR DIGITAL PHOTO CLASSES** at Silver Hills Studio from 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of every month. Learn to take quality photographs with a digital camera through classroom introduction and 2 hours of hands-on shooting in the natural landscape followed by constructive critique. Cost is \$25. To sign up, visit silverhillsstudio.com or call 497-4674.

SPORTS & RECREATION

- **Bow Recreation Department**
2 Knox Road, Bow, 228-2222, bowparksandrecreation.com
- **Candia Woods Golf Links**
313 South Road, Candia, 483-2307, candiawoods.com
- **Concord Recreation Dept.**
onconcord.com/recreation
- **Granite State Senior Games**
11 Stagecoach Way, Manchester, 622-9041, nhseniorgames.org
- **Granite State Wheelmen**
215 S. Broadway, Salem, 898-5479, granitestatwheelmen.org
- **McIntyre Ski Area**
Kennard Road in Manchester,

- 622-6159, mcintyreskiarea.com
- **Mine Falls Park**
Whipple Street in Nashua, Parks & Recreation, 589-3370
 - **White Park Pond**
Washington and White streets in Concord, onconcord.com/recreation
 - **YMCA**
30 Mechanic St., Manchester, 623-3558, gmymca.org
6 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack, 881-7778, nmymca.org
17 Prospect St., Nashua, 882-2011, nmymca.org
15 N. State St., Concord, 228-9622, concordymca.org

Spectator sports

- **Manchester Freedom Football**
9 Notre Dame Ave., 627-7270, manchesterfreedom.com
- **Manchester Monarchs Hockey**
Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., monarchshockey.com, 626-7825
- **NH Fisher Cats Baseball**
1 Line Drive, Manchester, 641-2005, nhfishercats.com

Biking/races

- **GRANITE STATE WHEELMEN** (granitestatwheelmen.org) is a recreational biking club offering rides for all levels ages 18+. Rides takes place Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings, as well as Mondays and Wednesdays after work. There are a number of leaders to guide small groups on rides of various distances and speeds on mostly back roads. Must wear a helmet. Call Cathy at 224-0346.
- **NASHUA CRITICAL MASS** is a celebratory event for cyclists promoting the peaceful existence of bikes and cars on the same road. There is a ride the last Friday of every month in Nashua. The course covers about four miles at a pace suitable for all ages and levels of experience. Critical Mass meets at 6 p.m. and the group departs from the parking deck on Factory Street at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact CMNashua@gmail.com.
- **NEW ENGLAND MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION**

- offers rides and opportunity to help preserve trails. Look for information on the southern NH chapter at nemba.org.
- **NH CYCLING CLUB** (nhcyclingclub.com) is an organization for people of all ages who want to compete in bike races. Membership costs \$25.
 - **NOVICE MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDE** meets at the Trumpet Gallery (8 Grove St., Peterborough) Saturdays, 10 a.m. Led by Mike Teitsch, an expert mountain biker. Session is \$20 and two weeks advance registration is required. Call 924-9862 or email monaadisabrooks@gmail.com.
 - **THURSDAY NIGHT TURTLE RIDE** at Dover Cyclery (12 Chestnut St., Dover) every Thursday at 6 p.m. The ride is a group ride for slower riders. It starts and finishes at Dover Cyclery. Call 617-3844.

Ice skating

- **ICE SKATING LESSONS** at the Everett Arena (15 Loudon Road, Concord), through Sat., Dec. 8. For ages 4 through adult. Times and prices are available by calling 225-8690 or visiting www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

Runs/running/walks

- **ATHLETIC ALLIANCE** (nathleticalliance.com) is a nonprofit running club based in Manchester open to all ages and ability levels.
- **GATE CITY STRIDERS** (gatecity.org) club for runners at all levels, from recreational joggers to competitive runners.

Spectator

- **LOWELL SPINNERS**, the Red Sox single-A minor-league affiliate, play at LeLachur Park, 450 Aiken St., Lowell, Mass. Find tickets and a complete schedule at www.lowellspinners.com.
- **MANCHESTER FREEDOM** women's tackle football team plays at West Memorial Field in Manchester. See www.manchesterfreedom.com.
- **MANCHESTER MAYHEM** is a roller derby team in Manchester. Visit rollerderbymanchester.com to learn about joining or vol-

unteering for the new team.

- **MANCHESTER MONARCHS** are an affiliate of the NHL's L.A. Kings, and play their home games at Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester). Call 626-7825 or visit manchesterm monarchs.com.
- **NASHUA SILVER KNIGHTS** summer baseball team competing in the Futures Collegiate Baseball League that is under the day-to-day management and supervision of the Lowell Spinners Professional Baseball Club (Class A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox), play at Holman Stadium, 67 Amherst St., Nashua. Call 718-8883 or go to nashuasilverknights.com.
- **NH MOUNTAINEERS SOCCER** games held at Southern NH University, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester. Visit www.mountainainesoccer.com.
- **NH ROLLER DERBY** team competes at the JFK Coliseum, 303 Beech St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door; kids 10 and younger get in free. See www.nhrollerderby.com.
- **SEACOAST MAVERICKS** are a member of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League and play at Bert George Field in Rochester. Tickets for home games can be purchased the day of the game and cost \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and ages 6 to 17. Children younger than 6 free.
- **SEACOAST UNITED PHANTOMS** a member of the United Soccer League's Premier Development League Division, plays at Portsmouth High School, 50 Andrew Jarvis Drive, Portsmouth, www.nhphantoms.com.

Team/competition sports.

- **ALL-AGES ARCHERY** classes available for ages 6 to seniors at locations in Bow, Concord, Franklin, Pembroke, New Boston, Bradford, Brentwood and Bedford. Beginner and advance classes offered; equipment provided. Call 224-5768 or email nesainc@aol.com.
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New notebook choices

Where to buy Linux & Chrome laptops

By John “jaQ” Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



When choosing a laptop, one of the first questions buyers ask themselves is usually, “Mac or PC?” If we’re being honest, the question is better phrased as, “Windows or Mac OS?” But truth be told, there are other options out there besides the venerable duopoly.

Chromebooks: A while ago I wrote about how Chrome, the Web browser from Google, resembled a whole operating system in itself. Google certainly thinks so, and built the Chrome OS to run on lightweight laptops, designed to always be connected to the Internet.

Samsung has four Chromebooks on offer, ranging from \$250 to \$550 depending on configuration. The cheapest one comes with Samsung’s very own 1.7GHz Exynos 5 dual-core processor, 2GB of memory and 16GB of flash memory. It has an 11.6-inch screen and integrated Wi-Fi; spend \$80 more and you get a 3G mobile broadband connection.

Samsung’s other pair of models has a slightly larger screen at 12.1 inches. Each one has a 1.3GHz Intel Celeron processor, 4GB of memory and the same 16GB of flash storage. You can check them all out at www.samsung.com/us/computer/chromebook.

The other main maker of Chromebooks is Acer. The C7 series starts at just \$199 and sports an 11.6-inch screen. Inside, there’s a 1.1GHz Intel Celeron processor, 2GB of memory and a 320GB hard drive. Even though Chrome OS is made to be connected to the cloud, having lots of local storage is always a nice option. On the other hand, hard drives aren’t as fast or as shock-proof as the flash memory in Samsung Chromebooks.

Acer’s line of Chromebooks — which is, for now, a single model — can be seen at <http://us.acer.com/ac/en/US/content/group/chromebooks>.

Linux laptops: For a full-featured oper-

ating system that doesn’t rely on the cloud, geeks have always gravitated toward Linux, and in the last few years, toward the Ubuntu flavor. This open-source OS doesn’t cost anything itself, but has a reputation of being less user-friendly than Windows, so big companies have had a tough time selling it pre-installed on systems.

Dell is having another go at it, though, with the XPS 13 Developer Edition. This Ultrabook — a designation given to thin, light notebooks with certain Intel chipsets — has a 13.3-inch screen, a speedy Intel Core i7 processor, 8GB of memory and a 256GB flash storage drive. It’s targeted toward programmers and comes with Ubuntu version 12.04 LTS, which stands for Long Term Support, meaning there will be patches and security updates made available for it longer than some other Ubuntu versions. As you might guess, this laptop is significantly more expensive than the basic Chromebooks: as of right now, it’s listed at \$1,449.

Are there cheaper Linux options? You bet. There’s a whole cottage industry of smaller companies offering pre-built laptops with Ubuntu installed. One of the most respected is **System76.com**; its Lemur Ultra laptop has a 14.1-inch screen and can be configured with a variety of options. At the base price of \$659, you get a 2.5GHz Intel Core i5 processor, 4GB of memory, a 500GB hard drive, a rewriteable DVD drive, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth. The same site has more expensive Linux laptops as well as desktops and servers.

If you don’t find anything you like there, you can check out **TheLinuxLaptop.com** for Pentium systems starting at \$499; **EmperorLinux.com** for powerful notebooks between \$1,280 and \$6,400; and **ZaReason.com** for another shop assembling laptops under \$1,000, desktops, and servers.

Use any OS to follow @CitizenjaQ on Twitter. 🐦

WI-FI HOTSPOTS

NASHUA

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- **BARNES & NOBLE** 235 DW Highway, 888-0533.
- **CARRIAGE HOUSE** 230 Route 13, Brookline, 769-6004, carriagehousecoffee.com. Free.
- **CASTRO’S BACK ROOM** 182 Main St., 881-7703. Free.
- **COUNTRY TAVERN** 452 Amherst St., 889-5871, country-tavern.org. Free.

tavern.org. Free.

- **CASSIDY’S GRILLE AND COFFEE HOUSE** 25 Route 101A, Amherst. Free.
- **FAT DADDY’S COFFEE CAFE**, 650 Amherst St. (Greystone Plaza), 821-5136. Free.
- **MARTHA’S EXCHANGE** 185 Main St., 883-8781. Free.
- **MERRIMACK PUBLIC LIBRARY** 470 DW Highway Merrimack, 424-5021. Free
- **NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY**,

2 Court St., nashualibrary.org/WiFi_FAQ.htm. Free.

- **NASHUA WIFI PROJECT** Main Street. Free.
- **NATHANIEL’S** 537 Amherst St. Free.
- **PANERA BREAD** 8 Spit Brook Road, 891-2133; 590 Amherst St., 821-6021, panerabread.com. Free.
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Sunday, December 9 at 2 pm
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081173

Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

• **Newly Minted:** Mint Bistro (1105 Elm St., Manchester, 625-6468) is switching hands. Tim Baines, former general manager of the Hanover Street Chophouse and Bedford's C.R. Sparks, is taking over for Roi Shpindler, who revamped the Mint back in January 2011 to offer a modern Asian fusion menu. "[Roi] is working with me during transition. He's built a real popular concept with a great vibe and great menu. I'm not looking to change things. I am going to maintain the level of service and level of food that has given this restaurant a great reputation in town," Baines said.

• **New year at New Hampshire's newest winery:** LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898) will be ringing in 2013 with a party including live music, hors d'oeuvres, dessert stations, a midnight toast and a fireworks display from the award-winning pyrotechnics at Atlas Pyrovision on Monday, Dec. 31, from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tickets are \$120 and are available online at www.labellewinerynh.com. Register by Dec. 10 for a \$20 discount. Attire is holiday festive, black tie optional.

• **Stand the cold:** Farm stands have been closing left and right as pick-your-own season disappears, but a few are staying open through the season, carrying a limited supply of goods. Red Manse Farm (5 Pittsfield Road, Loudon, 435-9943) will be selling root crops and some winter veggies; Schroder Farm (126 Sutton Road, South Newbury, 938-5911) carries maple syrup and wool products through the cold; and Trombly Gardens (150 N. River Road, Milford, 673-0647) is open Friday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. during the winter. Others like Brookdale Fruit Farm (Broad St., Hollis, 465-2240), Gould Hill (656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook, 746-3811), Ledge Top Farm (40 Courthouse Road, Amherst, 620-7302) and J&F Farms (124 Chester Road, Derry, 437-0535) are all open until late December. Still more are taking bulk orders of things like meat and poultry, including J&F Farms and Barrett Hill Farm (450 Fitchburg Road, Mason, 878-4022). For apples, contact Brookdale Fruit Farm, Sunnycrest Farm (59 High Range Road, Londonderry, 432-7753) and Hackleboro Orchards (61 Orchard Road, Canterbury, 783-4248, hackleboroorchards.com). Check our farm stand listings.

• **Cafe gifts:** Holiday cookie gift baskets from The Black Forest Cafe (212

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FOOD

Gingerbread housing development goes up

Builders from Frederick's Pastries talk strategy

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

It's Amherst's newest housing development: more than a dozen homes connected with winding pathways and snow-capped hills. And it's entirely edible.

With a staff of expert confectionery small-scale home-builders, Frederick's Pastries has erected its annual gingerbread village, this year with the theme A Kid's Christmas. It's a friendly competition among the bakers, with customers voting on their favorites.

"I only use my cake decorating skills a little, and that's why it's fun; we get to be creative. There are size and height restrictions, and we are provided the cookie and frosting, but everybody comes up with their own little something different," said decorator Jen DeMarco.

The DeMarco house is a grab-bag of childhood Christmas imagery: There are Angry Birds, Legos, Peanuts characters, the Abominable Snow Monster of claymation *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* fame, and penguins, which is a nod to her winning Antarctica house in 2010 when the theme was Christmas Around the World.

Another structural marvel-maker is Anne Walsh, Frederick's manager, who channeled her inner "girliness" and went with a replica of Cinderella's carriage. The carriage features little in the way of heavy candy because she baked the gingerbread into various shapes for the wheels, carriage seats and body. Instead, she used a thin layer of frosting to coat on designs like curtains, wreaths and animals.

"The key to your first house is to start simple. I think the more elements that are involved, the more patience you need, especially letting it dry," Walsh said. "I've been doing it for many years now and I always anticipate the theme, because everyone gets the same template, and when they go on

display it's exciting to see why people did what."

The village also features Spongebob Squarepants' under-sea pineapple, Calvin and Hobbes hanging out on the roof, Clifford the Big Red Dog's house and more traditional structures, such as a colorful church with a towering steeple and a decadent gazebo with a S'more's roof and Twizzlers running up the center.

All of these wouldn't be a village without connecting elements: a sugary landscape done by Frederick's proprietor Susan Lozier Robert, who creates winding fudge paths flanked by chocolate covered pretzels, gumdrops and gummy bears, frozen ponds of blue frosting and even intricate frosting Christmas trees with ice cream cones in the center.

Having been a gingerbread house maker for so many years, Lozier Robert has some suggestions for people who want to make their own at home.

"The most important part is the cookie and the icing," Lozier Robert said. "If the cookies are too thick, they will never harden, and too thin, they'll cave in. For the frosting, which is Royal icing, the consistency has to be perfect, and there can't be too much of it."

Even with the foundation done correctly, the houses still need to set. Often, Lozier Robert said, do-it-yourselfers come in to the store having been inspired by the village and complain they woke up after making gingerbread houses to caved roofs and sagging walls. Having the house sit undecorated overnight makes a world of difference; one strategy, she added, might be keeping news of an impromptu gingerbread house making party from the kids until their foundations are good and ready.

"Don't bite off more than you can chew," said cake decorator Kasey Fogg. "You can push a house to the limit, but keeping it simple is not a bad thing."

Fogg is competing for her



Gingerbread maker Kasey Fogg. Luke Steere photo.



Frederick's Pastries 2012 Gingerbread village. Luke Steere photo.

fourth year, going for the top spot with a recognizable Dr. Seuss theme. Her entry is a layered pile of Seussian symbols as chaotic as his stories: a stack of books beneath a hill with the famous cat's hat on top. It doesn't even appear to be a house until your eye catches the Grinch, popping out of a fireplace with Thing 1 and Thing 2 on the other side. A finishing touch, on top of the hat, is the fish bowl and its level-headed occupant from the story.

"The hill and part of the hat are made of gingerbread, but due to weight, I had to make some of the hat out of a rice crispy treat, and the fish is made of fondant frosting," said Fogg.

Smooth, colorful fondant coats the entire piece to "make it look nice and smooth, and appeal to the kids," she said.

Simple, no, but Fogg said she does a lot of prior planning, even making sketches of her ideas in the run up to the event.

"It's a tradition we all anticipate, like putting up your Christmas tree. And others do too. We probably get about 2,000 votes from customers. School groups have even been calling us over the past month asking if our village has been set up yet," Lozier Robert said.

Frederick's Pastries

- 109 Route 101A, Amherst, 882-7725, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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FOOD

Fresh-meat menu

Tuckaway combines tavern and butchery

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

The Tuckaway has answered a call to revitalize the vacant building formerly occupied by Freetown Yankee Market, a symbol of community in Raymond that's getting new life as a tavern and butchery.

Chef Bobby Marcote and manager Paul Simbliaris capitalized on the market's restaurant capacity by adding a 170-seat tavern four months after opening the butchery in March. It was a furiously paced start up, with renovations beginning in January. During that time they also assembled local, organic and Angus-certified vendors for the butchery and specialty store. The tavern opened four months later in July.

No restaurant is more symbolic of New England than the tavern, Marcote said, and with a larger seating capacity than the Freetown, they plan to make the Tuckaway a destination.

"We knew we had the butcher shop clientele ... the tavern is a way to extend the idea and develop a food menu with what we're serving," Marcote said.

"Having it all be one entity interested me," said Simbliaris, a former construction developer. "A tavern in New England attached to a huge butcher — I've seen nothing like this around here."

Simbliaris is a lifelong foodie but also dabbled in the restaurant business for a short time when he owned a small, seasonal seafood restaurant. Marcote has been working in kitchens ever since his younger days washing dishes with his stepdad, he said, where he had a comical inability to keep away from the food prep tables. Eventually he began cooking, and his last gig was a sous chef position at the Village Square in East Hampstead. He's worked primarily with tavern-style menus.

"With a tavern, it's simple food, but Paul's let me do things on my own and have some fun with it," he said.

Creativity within tavern-style menus can be dicey, Marcote said. Because the simplicity of the cuisine often attracts tavern customers, spruced-up dishes are kept to a minimum. However, at the Tuckaway, there are those dishes that let the meat speak for itself and others a little more adventurous, he said.

Their second-most-popular dish, bowing only to their steak tips (\$18), are rooster balls (\$8), molded, breaded and deep-fried spheres of chicken, cream cheese, honey buffalo and cilantro dressing and vegetables. Baby back ribs (\$14/\$18) and the tips are rubbed and marinated in homemade, secret-recipe sauces, but tenderloins, New York strips and filet



(left to right) Tuckaway Chef Bobby Marcote and Manager Paul Simbliaris. Luke Steere photo.

Tuckaway Tavern and Butchery

58 Route 27, Raymond, 244-2431, www.tuckaway.com

Open seven days

Butchery 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tavern 11:30 a.m. to midnight

mignons are prepared straight-up.

"The steaks are phenomenal as they are, so we only use salt and pepper to cook them," Marcote said.

The commodious butchery is chock full of bison meat, ground beef and a dozen varieties of sausages, all of which are fresh-ground three to four times per day, alongside roast turkey, chicken wings, bone-in pork, ham steaks and more. The butchery adjoins a specialty market carrying locally made beers, jams, preserves, vegetables and grocery items. All the meats can be sold stock or with marinades like maple barbecue, apricot ginger, or Cajun.

Upon entering the tavern foyer, the second entrance to the specialty market, patrons can wait to be seated or see into the butchery. Cooks and butchers can be seen weighing out cuts of meat bound for wholesale or the tavern kitchen. On the wall is a television with a live feed from the kitchen. Customers can watch as the fresh meat is pulled straight from the cooler, prepared on the fire and brought out to the table.

The tavern is emblematic of the rustic New Hampshire town it resides in, Marcote said, with local pine wood and barn siding around the bar, and a community-focused ideology. The name Tuckaway comes from Pawtuckaway State Park, a nearby conservation area, and Marcote said their goal is to make the tavern feel like a second home to locals.

This winter, they're trying to get more cozy by showcasing a festive holiday menu with a flaky turkey pot pie, a massive seafood bouillabaisse and a pot roast dinner. To complement the food, the Tuckaway is dabbling in mixology and premiering a drink menu featuring Winter Warmers, like the Chocolate Dipped Candy Cane of peppermint Schnapps; Tavern-Tinis, with names like Honey Do Twist and Lemon Splash; and Tavern Twists on classics. 🍷

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081130

Blood orange drink

Salem beverage maker launches new product

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Limoncello Fabrizia is returning to its authentic Italian beginnings, adding a blood orange liqueur to its line of after-dinner beverages.

A trip to see family in Italy five years ago inspired Phil Mastroianni to perfect a recipe for limoncello, which grew into a full-fledged distribution business now operating in nine states, including a warehouse in Salem. Last month, Limoncello Fabrizia started distributing its new blood orange liqueur. Like the popular limoncello, Mastroianni says applying the same fresh-as-can-be infusing techniques with the blood oranges makes for a great tasting product.

"All these ideas come and find us," Mastroianni said, whose Uncle Joe encouraged him to start the business after sampling some of his homemade limoncello. "This same inspiration happened with the blood oranges. You need to be excited about something for it to be a product. One of my customers in the North End, Cafe Pompeii, said if we made it, they would sell it."

Prior to Limoncello Fabrizia, Mastroianni's only brewing experience was as a winemaking hobbyist. Limoncello started making his own limoncello after trying his cousin's recipe in Calabria, Italy. She made the drink, a traditional digestivo liqueur, with fresh lemons from a tree in her yard.

As an Italian-American growing up in Boston, Mastroianni enjoyed limoncello's sweet, sour kick and high alcohol content (between 27 and 32 percent) after Italian dinners. It is usually served chilled.

Outside of Italy consumers tend to drink imported limoncello, he explained. That's different than the drink enjoyed around the Gulf of Naples, where it is usually homemade by restaurants, markets and families. According to Mastroianni, recipes for the drink are all basically the same, save for the freshness of the lemons.

"Yellow dye No. 5 is something Italians would never accept, and neither do we. This is what differentiates our product from others, larger liquor companies. Ours is authentic and traditionally prepared. The



Phil and Nick Mastroianni. Courtesy photo.

proof is in the taste," Mastroianni said.

Rinds of 1,800 fresh lemons from local fruit markets, brought in from California or Chile, go into a batch of 800 bottles of limoncello. Peels are steeped in grain alcohol to release the oil and the resulting yellow liquid is combined with simple syrup. For the blood orange liqueur, Limoncello Fabrizia uses the same simple production methods.

"The idea began as a way to offer something that is a less tart alternative to the limoncello. Our family and friends were enthusiastic about it, so we're going with it," Mastroianni said.

Infusing methods for the beverages are straightforward, but, he said, Limoncello Fabrizia does not compromise on ingredients and produces small, controlled batches to give their products an artisanal feel.

Their drinks are available in 80 restaurants both as a traditional digestivo or in cocktail recipes. They can be used to spice up foods, like as a water substitute in cake and other baked goods, a way to zest up salad or pasta and more.

Drinks

Fabrizia Tongue Tinger

1 oz Fabrizia Blood Orange
5 oz. Fabrizia Limoncello
2 oz. Cranberry juice
Fill highball glass with ice. Add ingredients. Mix well.

Fabrizia Blood Orange Coconut Frizz

1 oz. Fabrizia Blood Orange
.5 oz. Coconut Rum
.75 oz. OJ
2 oz. Ginger Beer
Combine first three ingredients in a shaker with ice. Shake well. Strain into rocks glass and garnish with orange slice.

Fabrizia Mimosa Sunrise

1 oz. Fabrizia Blood Orange
1.5 oz. Champagne or Prosecco
1.5 oz. OJ
Pour Fabrizia Blood Orange in a Champagne flute. Tip glass and slowly layer Champagne or Prosecco. Finish by slowly floating OJ, do not mix.

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NH Liquor and Wine Outlets Fabrizia Blood Orange liquor tastings:

Dec. 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Salem (417 South Broadway)
Dec. 8, 1-3 p.m., Bedford (2 Colby Court)
Dec. 12, 2-4 p.m., Nashua (25 Coliseum Ave.)
Dec. 20, 1-3 p.m., Manchester (1100 Bicentennial Drive)

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FOOD

Have it your way

Self-serve delights at YoFlava

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Grab a cup, pick YoFlava, add toppings,
weigh and pay.

It's a simple and delicious fix for frozen
yogurt addicts and an increasingly popular
treat all around, says Victor Torres, owner
of YoFlava in Manchester.

YoFlava customers are greeted by a bank
of 10 yogurt machines along the wall, each
holding flavors like piña colada, ginger-
bread, white chocolate macadamia, apple
pie, peach, banana split and classic cheese-
cake. Torres said his distributors make more
than 60 different flavors, so once every two
or three days he switches them out. Serving
cups are 16 and 20 ounces, and the yogurt
costs 48 cents per ounce.

After filling a cup with a flavor or two
(or 10 for the really adventurous), the next
stop is a toppings bar. The options are abun-
dant and appeal to every taste. Among them
are coconut shavings, sprinkles, walnuts,
nonpareils, Reese's pieces, chocolate-cov-
ered pretzels, pineapple chunks, Fruity
Pebbles, gummy bears and bobas (yogurt
bites derived from, yes, even more yogurt)
that come in a dozen different flavors.

"The self-serve bar idea is a fun way of
buying frozen yogurt," Torres said. "There
are no smalls or larges so you don't feel
forced to eat a particular amount. And cus-
tomers mix and match their flavors too."

Frozen yogurt was actually founded in
New England in the 1970s, but the self-serve
concept is something that has become popu-
lar on the East Coast only recently, Torres
said.

The frozen yogurt shop has been open
since October and, Torres said, has been
popular amongst diners, shoppers and res-
idents in and around the Northside Plaza
area.

"It complements the surrounding restau-
rants as a dessert place, and people have
been responding well. I see families com-
ing in after eating or shopping next door
and groups of students from SNHU and
other schools," he said.

The décor is that of a new-age dessert



YoFlava owner Victor Torres. Luke Steere photo.

shop, with bright green, blues and reds col-
oring the walls and the modern-looking
chairs. A bar along the window seats four or
five, and there are two couches at the cen-
ter of the room where you can eat and use
the free WiFi.

YoFlava is Torres' second business, his
first being the Lowell-based Caribbean
Bakery that he has operated for 10 years.

"Originally, I wanted to open another
bakery, but the frozen yogurt idea was a lit-
tle more attractive," he said.

Torres had a little inspiration from a near-
by Lowell business, Frozert, after which
YoFlava is modeled. Torres saw that Froz-
ert was popular and knew it required less
equipment, and fewer hours, than a baker,
he said.

In terms of the location, Torres' said he
does Bible studies in Manchester, and he
was initially eyeing a space downtown for
the business. After talks for an Elm Street
property fell through, Torres eyed the pla-
za space. He had noted the success of Tutti
Frutti, which is located inside the Mall of
New Hampshire, and figured he too could
attract customers wandering through stores.

"Manchester is an enjoyable place," Tor-
res said. "It's got the big city aspects with
the feel of a small town."

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• **GOULD HILL FARM** 656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook, 746-3811, gouldhillfarm.com, closes Dec. 23
• **J&F FARMS** 124 Chest Road, Derry, 437-0535, jandffarms.net, closes end of Dec.

• **MACK'S APPLES** 230 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 434-7619, mackapples.com, closes mid-Jan.
• **MEADOW LEDGE FARM** 612 Route 29, Loudon, 798-5860, meadowledgefarm.com, closes Dec. 23
• **RED MANSE FARM** 5 Pittsfield Road, Loudon, 435-9943, redmansefarm.com, Closes in March.
• **SCHRODER FARM** 126 Sut-

ton Road, South Newbury 938-5911, limited Winter selection of maple syrup and wool products.
• **TROMBLY GARDENS** 150 N. River Road, Milford, 673-0647, tromblygardens.com, Shorter winter hours.

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- **CONTOOCOOK** 656 Gould Hill Road on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., through May. Visit www.harvesttomarket.com or call 508-282-0094.
- **DANBURY** Blazing Star Grange (15 North Road) every first Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through April. Visit www.danburygrange.org or call 768-5579.
- **DERRY** Upper Village Hall (52 E. Derry Road) on the first and third Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. through March. Call 434-8974 or email farmersmkt@ci.derry.nh.us.
- **ENFIELD** Enfield Community Building (Rte. 4) every Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. through April. Call 632-5026 or email recreation@enfield.nh.us.
- **EXETER** Exeter High School (315 Epping Road) on Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 16 and April 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit www.seacoasteatlocal.org.
- **GREENLAND** Rolling Green Nursery (16 Breakfast Hill Road) on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through March. Visit www.rollinggreennursery.com or call 436-2732.
- **HENNIKER** Parish Hall at Congregational Church of Henniker (5 Maple St.) on Thursdays, 4 to 6 p.m. through May 3. Visit www.harvesttomarket.com or call 568-1562.
- **LACONIA** Indoors at Laconia Skate Escape Roller Rink (161 Court St.) every Thursday 3 to 6 p.m., excluding holidays and school vacation weeks. Visit www.laconiaindoorwintermarket.weebly.com.
- **MILFORD** Milford Town Hall Auditorium (3 Middle St.) first and third Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit www.milfordnhfarmersmarket.com.
- **NEW LONDON** New London Elementary School (64 Cougar Court) on Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit www.marketonthegreen.com or call 865-9841.
- **NEWMARKET** Carpenter's Greenhouse (220 S. Main St.) on first and third Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through April. Call 659-3391 or email newmarketfarmermarket@gmail.com.
- **NOTTINGHAM** Nottingham Municipal Complex (139 Stage Road, Route 152) on second Sunday of each month, 1 to 4 p.m. through March. Call 679-5392 or email nottinghamfarmermarket@gmail.com.

TWELVE BITES MENU PREVIEW




The Concord Food Co-op's (24 South Main Street, Concord) upcoming 12 Bites of Christmas event menu has been announced and, according to Co-op General Manager Paula Harris, it's "the best menu ever!" Each line of the classic holiday song will be presented to guests in order, making for delightfully edible takes on a partridge in a pear tree, granola bark with pear cream; two turtle doves, a turtle dove ice cream bar and three French hens, a Frenched chicken. Other items include poached-fried duck eggs (eight geese a laying) and the finale, seared scallops with chive sticks (twelve drummers drumming). Accompanying the feast will be the Concord Choral presenting live "Fa La La" music and a free wine tasting. Twelve Bites scheduled for Thurs., Dec. 13, from 6 to 8 p.m. and is limited to just 150 participants, so reserve by calling 225-6840 or emailing info@concordfoodcoop.coop. \$10 per person; all ticket sales will benefit the Concord-Merrimack County SPCA. Visit www.concordfoodcoop.coop.

smarket@gmail.com.

- **PLYMOUTH** online-only ordering from Mon. afternoon to midnight Tues. with pickup at the UPS Store (75 Main St., No. 4) on Thurs. 4-6 p.m. See www.localfoodsplymouth.org.
- **ROLLINSFORD** Wentworth Greenhouses (141 Rollins Road) on Dec. 1, Dec. 22, Jan. 26, Feb. 23 and March 23, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit www.seacoasteatlocal.org.
- **SALEM** Lake St. Garden Center (37 Lake St.) Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through May. Visit www.salemnhfarmersmarket.com.
- **TILTON** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 15 Lowes Drive on Saturdays, January through March. Visit www.tiltonwinterfarmersmarket.com or call 496-1718.
- **WALPOLE** at Walpole Town Hall (135 School St.) on every third Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Holiday market, Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Vendor list and information at 756-3168 or www.walpolefarmersmarket.com.
- **WASHINGTON** at Meetinghouse Farmers' Market (7 Halfmoon Pond Road) last Saturday of every month from Jan. to Apr., 9 a.m. to noon. Call 495-3661 or email mgagesse@washingtontn.org.
- **WEARE** at Holy Cross Church (118 Center Road) on Fridays, 3:30 to 6 p.m. Year round. Visit weare1farmersmarket.org or call 344-2323.
- **WEARE** at Weare Town Hall (15 Flanders Memorial Road) Saturdays, Oct. through May, 4-6:30 p.m. Call 491-4203 or see www.harvesttomarket.com

CSA

- **BEANS & GREENS WINTER** Herbs, pasture raised chicken, beef on the hoof, winter storage vegetables. Farm emails participants each Sun. or Mon. night with available items, \$25 and \$40 shares available. Tuesday pick-up at 300 Gunstock Hill Road, Gilford; delivery available. For details call 293-2853 or visit www.beansandgreensfarm.com.
- **CONCORD/WARNER AREA** Certified organic vegetables and root crops, storage crops, winter greens. Runs mid-December to early May. \$285/share, nine pick up dates at Clinton St., Concord, Clinton St. or the Vegetable Ranch (443 Kearsarge Mountain Rd., Warner) on Thursdays. Call 496-6391 or email vegetableranch@gmail.com or visit www.vegetableranch.com.
- **RED MANSE WINTER** mid-Oct.-Jan., Pick up at Red manse (5 Pittsfield Rd., Loudon)

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FOOD PERISHABLES

Sauce béarnaise

When I'm lucky enough to go to a steakhouse, I scour the menu for anything served with sauce béarnaise. I'm sort of obsessed. It's so rich and buttery and just plain delicious. At restaurants, this sauce is wonderful. When homemade by my husband, this sauce is to die for and serves as the perfect complement to red meat (although I find myself dipping anything and everything into this heavenly sauce).

In my humble opinion, shallots are to thank for making béarnaise sauce so delicious. While they are in the same family as the onion, they are smaller in size and milder in taste. They grow in cloves like garlic, and the smaller ones (rather than the jumbo) are tastier. Their mild flavor adds the perfect kick to béarnaise, so don't be tempted to substitute an onion, because it won't be the same. They're in season from April to August but available easily all year round at your local market. While not currently in season, their flavor in the sauce



béarnaise seems distinctively wintry and cozy because of the sauce's richness. This is not a light meal, but trust me, you won't be thinking about the calories.

Béarnaise sauce is not complicated to make, but the process happens quickly, so everything needs to be ready or else the ingredients won't mix well. Whisking quickly and adding ingredients slowly is key — it's best if you have an assistant at the ready! — *Allison Willson Dudas*

Beef Fondue with Sauce Béarnaise

Adapted from Allrecipes

Makes 2 cups, serves 4-6

½ cup white wine vinegar

½ cup dry white wine

2 tablespoon minced shallot

1 teaspoon dried tarragon

½ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon ground black pepper

6 egg yolks

1 cup hot melted butter

Mix vinegar, wine, shallots, tarragon, salt and pepper in a small saucepan over medium-high heat, boiling until the liquid is reduced to about 4 tablespoons. Strain vinegar reduction into a large bowl; set aside for later.

Use a double boiler or two similar-sized saucepans for what follows. In larger or

lower pot, bring several inches of water to a boil, then reduce heat to low or medium-low to maintain a slow simmer. In smaller or top pot, whisk egg yolks into the vinegar reduction very slowly while over the simmering water. Whisk constantly until the yolks have thickened and turned a pale lemon yellow color. The mixture will form ribbons when the whisk is lifted from the saucepan. Watch the sides of your saucepan to make sure egg doesn't stick. Once the yolk has reached this point, remove the pan from atop the simmering water.

While continuing to whisk vigorously, slowly pour the butter into your mixture. Keep mixing until your sauce is formed, when the butter is fully incorporated and you have a thick mixture. Serve immediately.

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tion. Visit www.heronpondfarm.com to sign up or find out more by calling the farm at 591-8720.

Food maps/tours

• **FOOD MAPS** The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire offers an online Farm & Food Map which lists member farms, local restaurants and other businesses supporting organic agriculture; sort by location or product type. Visit www.nofan.org or have list your farm listed by becoming a member, call 224-5022.

• **ICE CREAM TRAIL** Granite State Dairy Promotion's New Hampshire Ice Cream Trail is an annually updated map highlighting shops and stands that use NH dairy products. Call 271-3696, e-mail gsdp@comcast.net, or go to www.nhdairypromo.org for a copy.

• **NH ONLINE FARMERS MARKET** www.nhfarms.com compiles NH farms all in one place, find nearby sellers of fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, maple and honey products, flowers, baked goods and more.

• **MAPLE, FAMILY STYLE** A weekend long maple tour available at the state's tourism site www.vistnh.gov. Breakfasts, candies, maple tree tapping and production tours. Best time usually mid-March.

• **BREWERIES AROUND** Seacoast, Merrimack Valley, Northern NH and the Monadnock Region all boast breweries, and www.vistnh.gov features a map of many- corporate and independent alike- for your touring pleasure.

• **WINE, CHOCOLATE, CHEESE** A tasty hat-trick from www.vistnh.gov. Three different trails around the state gets you

Simple stuffed shells

I'm a sucker for all things cheesy, gooey and covered in pasta sauce, which is why this comfort food has been one of my favorite meals since I was younger. My mom would cook me stuffed shells for every birthday, good report card and broken heart. So it's no surprise that when I'm feeling stressed or homesick I bake this quick meal – even if it's sans my dad's homemade pasta sauce.

The stuffed shells I grew up eating are simple – three cheeses, selected seasonings, and sauce. But the combination of cheese is key. For this recipe I use a blend of three cheeses: ricotta, mozzarella and Parmesan.

Ricotta cheese is rich and slightly sweet. It's made from skim or whole cow's milk. Most Italian-style ricottas, according to food.com, are made from whey that is drained off while making other cheeses like mozzarella and provolone. Ricotta, most frequently used in Italian cooking, dates far back into Latin and Mediterranean history. The name itself is from the word "recocta," meaning recooked or cooked twice. Travelers in the Roman countryside are said to have created the cheese byproduct while cooking their food in kettles over open fires.

Mozzarella has an equally interesting history. It was first made in Naples, Italy, from the milk of water buffalos. According to the Mozzarella Company, because the cheese was not made from pasteurized milk and there was little refrigeration at the time, it had a very short shelf life. As technology, transportation and refrigeration improved, the cheese spread to other regions of Italy and around the world.

Dating back just as far, but with a more widely known origin, Parmesan cheese was first made more than eight centuries ago



Lauren Mifsud photo.

in the Italian region of Parma. By the early 14th century, the cheese had found its way from the Parm-Reggio region over the mountains to Tuscany where it was then shipped to other Mediterranean ports. The first documented referenced to Parmesan, according to parmesan.com, was in 1254, when a woman traded her house for the guarantee of a supply of 53 pounds of cheese produced in Parma annually.

The blend of these cheeses, with an egg to bind and seasoned with pepper and a bit of garlic salt, makes a salty and slightly sweet filling for your favorite pasta noodles that will melt delectably after only 45 minutes in the oven. It's simple and savory and you'll be stuffed — pun intended — after a meal with this comfort food staple.

— Lauren Mifsud

Stuffed Shells

- 1 15-ounce package ricotta cheese
- 1 cup parmesan cheese
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 egg
- Pepper and garlic salt to taste
- 1 box jumbo pasta shells

Cook the pasta shells according to the directions on the package, usually for about two minutes less than directed to allow for

baking. Meanwhile, combine all cheeses, egg, pepper and garlic salt in a bowl; stir to combine. Drain shells and let cool. Once cool enough to handle, scoop one spoonful of the cheese mixture into each shell. Lay in a baking dish that has a light layer of sauce on the bottom. Top with the desired amount of sauce and cover with aluminum foil. Bake at 350 degrees for approximately 45 minutes or until cheese is melted.

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Festivals/cook-offs/expos/parties/book events

- **MILL EATS GRAND OPEN-**

ING Sat., Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Mill Eats (1 Washington Street Mill, Suite 330, Dover) New specialty store carrying locally made products.

- **A CHRISTMAS CREPERIE** Silver Moon Creperie (20A 3rd St., Dover) grand re-opening Tues., Dec. 11, 5 to 9 p.m. Limited time menu of German and Northern European winter holiday cuisine. Visit www.silvermooncreperie.com.

- **12 BITES OF CHRISTMAS** Thurs., Dec. 13, 6-8 p.m. at Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord). Holiday-inspired appetizers from the Celery Stick Café, live music and wine tasting. Tickets and pricing at 225-6840 or www.concordfoodcoop.coop.
- **NEW HORIZONS HOLIDAY BASH** Milly's Tavern (500 N. Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444) benefit for New Hori-

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FOOD

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 48

Route 101 Amherst, 672-0500) keeps gift-giving local. Baskets are packed with homemade cookies and other sweets and, for the first time this year, are being delivered locally. The BFC is also offering gift cards for the first time and felt moose ornaments. They are cherry-red with button eyes and a gingham scarf, and they're being sold in the marketplace. Visit www.theblackforestcafe.com for selections and ordering.

• **Community eats:** Dover is getting a new specialty food store. Mill Eats is holding a grand opening at 1 Washington Street Mill, Suite 330, on Sat., Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Store owners Michael and Gretchen Nicholas also own Viola Jane Foods, a sauce company based in a commercial kitchen in the same mill, which they sublet to other skilled, local food ventures. Mill Eats will feature handcrafted sauces, breads, cookies, pies, authentic Syrian sweets and gourmet meals from all over the community in a 150 square foot store. Saturday's grand opening coincides with the Washington Street Mill's annual holiday open house.

• **Meading for a good cause:** On the weekend of Dec. 15, Sap House Meadery (6 Folsom Road, Center Ossipee, 539-1672) is re-releasing its entire line of 2012 seasonal meads, Chocolate, Peach Maple, Strawberry, Blackberry Maple and Cranberry Sage, and two brand-new, never

released barrel-aged meads, Sugar Maple, which has been aged 18 months. Quantities are limited, but on Dec. 15 and 16 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., bottles will be sold for \$2 apiece, first come, first served, and proceeds will go to purchase gifts for the needy as part of the Ossipee Concerned Citizens' Santa Project. In addition, enjoy refreshments provided by White Gate Farms, Beaver Ridge Bath and Body, Sandwich Creamery and other local purveyors. Visit www.saphousemeadery.com for a list of stores carrying Sap House mead around New Hampshire.

• **A lot to celebrate:** Dover's Silver Moon Creperie (20A 3rd St.) is honoring six years of business in these trying economic times, the end of the Mayan Calendar and (perhaps) civilization as we know it and "just because we feel like it," said owner Chris Therrien. For about a half month the Creperie has been closed, recalibrating their menu and rescheduling their hours for winter and, on Dec. 11, they're opening back up. Their menu harkens German and northern European winter holiday cuisine, including sugar plum jam and candy cane cream plus warming drinks like candy apple mulled cider and Nutella cocoa. New hours, from 5 to 9 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, begin that day as well. Check www.facebook.com/silvermooncreperie.

zon's Shelter. Fri., Dec. 14, 7 p.m.

• **GINGERBREAD SPECTACULAR** Fifth annual event at Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road Canterbury) Saturdays, Dec. 8 and 15, from 3 to 8 p.m. Public viewing and judging. For more information, call 783-9077, ext. 230, or visit www.shakers.org.

• **CURRIER AND IVES COOKIE TOUR** is a self-guided excursion through the Monadnock Region. Sat., Dec. 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., view Christmas décor and enjoy homemade treats and recipes from local inns. Tickets are \$10, email cookie tour@yahoo.com.

• **HOLIDAY COOKIE SWAP** Share cookies and baking tips and meet new amateur bakers. Thurs., Dec. 20, 6-8 p.m. at Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord). Admission is a container with 24 cookies, copies of recipe encouraged. Tag station and light holiday refreshments.

• **ZORVINO HOLIDAY PARTY** Jingle ball holiday party. Sat., Dec. 8, 6-11 p.m. at Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown). \$50. Wine tasting, dinner and dancing. Make reservations at 887-8463 or www.zorvino.com.

• **MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA** Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) annual winter event for mothers and daughters, special menus with teas. \$34 adults, \$29 children ages 4-10. Sun., Dec. 9. Reservations 472-2001, menus and times TBA at www.bedfordvillageinn.com.

• **MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA** Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) annual winter event for mothers and daughters,

tapas-sized apps, \$35. Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown). Reserve at 887-8463 or www.zorvino.com.

• **A CHRISTMAS CAROL DINNER** Holiday feast of past, present and yet to come at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) \$115. Saturday, Dec. 8, at 6:30 p.m. Reservations and menu updates at stages-dining.com/events.

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• **HEARTHSIDE HOLIDAY FEAST** at the Remick Country Doctor Museum and Farm (58 Cleveland Hill Road, Tamworth, 323-7591) Saturday Dec. 15, 5-7 p.m. \$40. Locally grown food and authentic farm recipes.

• **ALICE IN WONDERLAND DINNER** Back to back culinary trips down the rabbit hole at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) Jan. 18 and 19 at 6:30 p.m. Call for reservations.

• **NATIONAL PANCAKE DAY** Free pancakes at IHOP (224 South River Road, Bedford; 528 South Broadway, Salem) Tues., Feb. 5, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals' 30th anniversary. Visit www.ihoppancakeday.com.

• **INDULGENCE DINNER** All things guiltily pleasurable, three times over, at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) Feb. 14, 15 and 16 at 6:30 p.m. Call for reservations.

PB shortbread bars

Let's consider the Christmas cookie plate as a whole, an experience. Flavor is, of course, the most important consideration; you want a variety of chocolate and spices and jams and nuts.

Aesthetics, however, matter as well. A platter full of round, lumpy drop cookies would be visually unappealing. Even a pile of colorfully iced cut-out cookies would be monotonous without a little chocolate brown to add mouth-watering variety.

For this reason, I always include a bar cookie among my rounder choices in my Christmas baking. One of my regular favorites is an almond jam bar I wrote about last spring. Chocolate chip cookie bars topped with red and green M&Ms (or colors more appropriate to your personal holiday observations) are also a guaranteed hit.

This year I decided to try something new after I happened across this recipe in one of the cookie magazines I buy compulsively every fall. My experiment was a success. The shortbread crust is nutty, buttery, and



crumbly (in a good way). The peanut butter filling is creamy and rich, and the ganache topping is, well, chocolate.

The recipe does take a few hours to come together, but active preparation time is minimal; the process involves a lot of chilling, cooling and baking, leaving you several pockets of time to finish up your holiday shopping online or do some gift-wrapping.

And the resulting cookies — and the adulation from those who eat them — are totally worth the effort. Enjoy.

— Sarah Shemkus 🍷

Peanut Butter Chocolate Shortbread Bars

From the Fine Cooking 2012 Christmas cookie issue

- 14 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted and cooled to just warm
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 cups plus 2 tablespoons flour
- ½ cup unsalted peanuts, finely chopped
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1½ cups confectioners sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 5 ounces bittersweet chocolate, chopped (about 1 heaping cup)
- ½ cup plus 2 tablespoons heavy cream

Line a 13- by 9-inch baking pan with foil. In a medium bowl, stir together melted butter, sugar, and salt. Stir in the flour and peanuts to make a stiff dough. Press the mixture evenly into bottom of prepared pan. Prick the dough all over with a fork. Refrigerate pan for 30 minutes, until dough is firm. Meanwhile, heat oven to 325°F.

Bake dough for 20 minutes, then decrease the oven temperature to 300°F and bake until crust is golden-brown, 20 to 25 more minutes. Let the crust cool completely before topping.

To make filling, beat peanut butter and butter together on medium speed until smooth, about 1 minute. Add about half of confectioners' sugar, vanilla extract, and 1 tablespoon hot water. Beat on low speed until combined, then on medium speed until smooth and fluffy, about 1 more minute. Beat in the remaining sugar and mix until the mixture is smooth and thick. Spread filling over crust.

Put chocolate in a small heat-proof bowl. In a small saucepan, bring the heavy cream to a boil and pour over the chocolate. Let sit for three minutes. Stir with a rubber spatula until combined and smooth.

Spread ganache over filling. Let the bars sit at least 3 hours or refrigerate for 1 hour. Lift the bars from the pan using the foil sides and transfer to a cutting board. Cut bars into 1½-inch squares.

• **MAPLE MADNESS DINNER** at The Inn at East Hill Farm, 460 Monadnock St., Troy, 242-6495, www.east-hill-farm.com, will feature maple dishes, live fiddle music and a silent auction. BYOB. Reservations required. Sun., March 3.

• **DECADES DINNER** Do some decade-jumping from the 50s to now, on two nights at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) March 22 and 23 at 6:30 p.m. Call for reservations.

• **SPRINGTIME IN PARIS DINNER** Two nights by the Siene at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) April 19 and 20 at 6:30 p.m. Call for reservations.

• **JULIA CHILD DINNER** Tributes to the culinary legend on two nights at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) May 3 and 4 at 6:30 p.m. Call for reservations.

• **MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH** Celebrate mom at a brunch at

Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) May 12 at 11:30 a.m. Call for reservations.

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North Carolina tastings

Biltmore Estate boasts country's most visited winery

By Stefanie Phillips
listings@hippopress.com

I love wine tasting in New Hampshire but I also love being able to try other wines in other parts of the country. I recently traveled to North Carolina, where many of the grapes grown are similar to the ones grown in New England, including marechal foch and seyval. It gets much warmer in North Carolina during the summer months than it does in New Hampshire, though; the sun is stronger and the growing season much longer.

Unique to North Carolina and its neighboring states are muscadine and scuppernong wine, both grape species that grow easily in the area due to toleration of strong sun. Muscadine wine is usually sweet, with sugar added during the winemaking process, but it is also used to make juice and jelly. They have been used to make port wines as well. The scuppernong is a larger type of muscadine, which originated in North Carolina.

One of the most notable attractions here is America's most visited winery, at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, a place rich with history. During my visit, I had the chance to visit this amazing 8,000-acre property and learn more about its legacy.

According to the Biltmore website, the building that houses the winery used to be the old dairy, where 1,000 Jersey cows used to live. In the 1930s, visitors could watch the cows being milked and see the dairy process while sampling milk and ice cream made right on site.

The winery was opened in 1985 and is the site of Biltmore Wine production, from weighing, destemming and crushing grapes to fermentation in one of 75 tanks. The wines are aged in oak barrels and steel tanks, depending upon the wine. They are bottled in the bottling room. Visitors sample the finished product in the expansive tasting room, which was once the milking parlor.

There are two winemakers at the Biltmore: Bernard Delille and Sharon Fenchak. Delille, from France, joined the estate's winery in 1986 and became the wine master in 1991. He enjoys crafting sparkling wines after the methods used by the French. Fenchak joined the Biltmore in 1991 and became a wine master in 2003. She is part of the team that researches and develops grape-growing technologies.

Wine production on the estate began in 1971 under the direction of William A.V. Cecil, grandson of George Washington Vanderbilt I, who was actually born in the

estate. The first vines were planted close to the house and the first wine bottled in the conservatory. Cecil was unhappy with the result and brought Philippe Jourdain from France in the mid-'70s as the estate's first winemaker.

The vineyards were moved into their current location on the west side of the property. There are several varietals grown there, including cabernet sauvignon, merlot, Riesling, and chardonnay.

For guests at the Biltmore Estate, wine tasting and a tour of the winery are included in admission. I did not have time to take a tour, but I did have the chance to try a few wines in the impressive tasting room. I appreciated the relaxed atmosphere, as my friend and I did not feel rushed to sample the wines quickly and give up our spots.

We chose a few whites and a few reds to sample. First, we tried the Chardonnay Sur Lies, a dry, medium-bodied wine with notes of pineapple and peach. While I typically don't like chardonnay, this wine was fairly smooth.

Next, we tried the Christmas White, a special wine offered only during the holiday season onsite. This wine is a blend of several grapes including gewurtztraminer, chenin blanc and Riesling. We really liked this wine, as it was semi-sweet and light with fruit flavors.

The Zinfandel Blanc de Noir, named one of the guests' favorite wines, was very light and would be a great summer wine.

For reds, we tried two different merlots, with the only difference being their aging time. The merlot aged longer, their Limited Release Merlot, was our favorite of the two, proving that time really does change the wine. This wine had light tannins with notes of raspberries, oak and a touch of vanilla.

Lastly, we tried two red blends. The first was the Century Red, a combination of sangiovese and merlot, which had notes of plums, vanilla and smoke. Recommended pairings include ribs, chocolate cake and beef, though I could also see it going well with Italian pasta dishes. The second blend, Cardinal's Crest, is a big red blend of six grapes and is named for a ceremonial wall hanging. This wine was smooth despite its depth, with hints of blackberry, cherry and oak. Recommended pairings are pizza and lasagna.

If you visit Asheville or the surrounding area, I highly recommend visiting the Biltmore Estate and, of course, the winery. The wine might be modern, but the grapes are rooted in history. 🍷

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DRINK

Red, white and green

A lot of wine, a little cash

This week we explore some of the new 2009 Bordeaux

Our first wine is a 2009 Chateau La Croix Chaigneau Lelande de Pomerol (\$13.99). This is a red Bordeaux from Lalande de Pomerol, a growing region on the right bank of the Garonne and Dordogne rivers that divide the Bordeaux growing region. Like most European wines, these wines are described by where they are from not the grape varieties that make them up. In many cases it's hard to know exactly what's in a Bordeaux, though it must include at least one of the six Bordeaux grapes, cabernet sauvignon, merlot, cabernet franc, petit verdot, malbec and carmenere. Our La Croix Chaigneau had a dark purple color that we could see through a bit. For a nose we found a bit of fruit (mostly cherry) and a touch of chocolate. The wine has a big presence with a puckery dry mouth feel, but the fruit is restrained. We got flavors of stone fruit and light but complex minerals.

Our second wine is a 2009 Chateau Croix-Mouton Bordeaux Superieur (\$17.99). The Bordeaux Superieur designation means the wine would likely be from the right bank and not be from a specific appellation, such as Margaux. The Croix-Mouton was inky,



so much so that we couldn't see through the wine. On the nose we found some fruit, and a bit of floral notes. In the mouth we got tannins and found the wine to be on the drier side. The fruit flavors were restrained but we got a good amount of plum and found the wine to be well rounded with a nice balance of acid to sweetness. We thought it would go well

with a beef Wellington.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," the wine-lovers taste red and white wines that sell for not too much of the green, less than \$20. The goal? To find a good bottle without breaking the bank. Unless otherwise noted, the prices listed are what you'll find the bottles selling for at the New Hampshire Wine & Liquor Outlet.

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- **THE FLYING GOOSE BREW PUB & GRILLE** 40 Andover Road in New London, 526-6899, flyinggoose.com.
- **INCREDIBREW/GRAPE-TIME WINERY**, 112 DW Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, grape-timewinery.com (call for class schedule, tastings).
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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events.

To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at ksennot@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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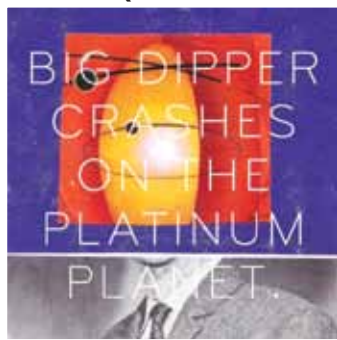
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BIG DIPPER, BIG DIPPER CRASHES ON THE PLATINUM PLANET (ALMOST READY RECORDS)



After the Big Bang, the Earth cooled down a bit, and shortly after that came the mid-'80s Boston scene, with bands like Volcano Suns and Dumptruck ruling over all those intolerable five-band-nights at The Channel and whatnot. Members of those two aforementioned bands went on to form Big Dipper, who attempted to ply the country with the chintzy garage-pop that was popular locally, not realizing that Boston's was the only scene that really

took that stuff seriously. Sounding like They Might Be Giants after hanging around with Versus for way too long, Big Dipper made a small splash and then promptly sank like a flatcar hauling a load of jersey barriers. It's been over 20 years since you've heard anything new from these guys, and there's no change at all with this album, so the question is: Will the world embrace a band doing jangly, meandering '80s rock made of melodies that sound like a bunch of blind guys trying to find tiny juicy hooks in a 2,000-square-mile stretch of Saharan desert? Answer: Don't we already have The Walkmen? **B-** — Eric W. Saeger

MY RADIO, STARTS IN THE EAST FALLS IN THE WEST (REDEYE DISTRIBUTION)



Advertised as a "love letter to indie rock's roots," the second album from this Virginia foursome does have a lot of Phoenix-style beat-age underneath the distinctly '80s-white-soul vocals, which are remindful of, if anyone, Michael Hutchence. Since INXS isn't widely considered to be an "indie rock band," you might now be writing this off as an emo-pop commercial thing like Dashboard Confessional, but that's not what this is either — think Coldplay acting more like rock stars instead of confused ponces, and with a lower budget and a dabbler's taste in quirk-rock. Don't feel confused — the bottom line is that I wouldn't be surprised to hear one of these (quite decent) songs blasting from the speakers at a fake-hip chain restaurant, since the pomp-punk neo-AOR element is definitely there. But by the same token, they're obviously sympathetic to the legion of Bloc Party wannabes that were too creative and weird to make it, among which this band will probably number if they run out of steam. **B-** — Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A Seriously Abridged Compendium of Recent and Future CD Releases

• One of this column's most beloved traditions is my yearly brag about attending **Boston Ballet's** *Nutcracker*. Aside from my waddling in and bloviating about what an awesome time I had, there's actual journalism to be done this year, specifically because the whole look of the show has changed for 2012. Gone is the Dudley Do-Right style head of the titular character when in "toy mode;" it's been replaced by a friendly, corporate-ready minimalist look, sort of like eBay's antiseptic new logo. Uncle Drosselmeyer doesn't fly off at the end of Act I, which bummed me way out, but you'll absolutely freak at the new "growing Christmas tree" because it seems like it's the size of the Prudential building, simply mammoth. The jester toy has been replaced by a harlequin doing a less mechanical dance move, not a very noteworthy change — you can't help but feel like all the new costumes and such are aimed as much at keeping the company happy as the audience amused, despite the recent *60 Minutes* story on making ballet more "appealing" to modern audiences (if you're desperately "modern," just stay away from traditional art, is what I'd ask of people, not that anyone in their right mind actually craves the experience of "revamped classics" — what's next, a few bars of dubstep when the Pops plays the climactic moment of the *1812 Overture* on the Fourth of July?). The buzzword for all the gold tones and updated gowns and assorted finery is "vibrant" — even the waiter at Avenue One across the street from the Opera House has apparently been instructed to spout that word. I say humbug, but I'll admit that the dancers made almost no mistakes, in spite of all the new costuming and stuff; there were just a couple of minor equipment errors. The redrawn final scene made up for just about anything bad you could say about the whole thing, meanwhile.

• You know it's the holidays when, one November evening, you're watching your shows and stuff, and all of a sudden you're late for EVERYTHING! Radio Shack has battery-operated something-or-other! Fifty percent off at Walmart's random chintz aisle! Buy a Mercedes car, for your new girlfriend, so she'll know you know she's not materialistic! And, of course, the hit movie you have to see or you're a complete loser Grinch, which, this year, is *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*, starring a bunch of CGI-rendered Jar Jar Binks midgits or whatever. The **soundtrack** to this fine CGI cartoon will be in stores next week, and it was done by Howard Shore, who did the last bunch of random orchestra notes for the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

• Of course, some of you are implacable horror buffs, hating the holidays, wearing your *Saw III* T-shirts to grandma's house, for Thanksgiving. And nothing could be more horror-ific than the versions of "Jingle Bell Rock" and "Joy to the World" on the new *Vol. 3-Glee: the Music-Christmas Album*. Stop being so toxic and enjoy the Matrix, will you? — Eric W. Saeger

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POP CULTURE

Telling her own story

Author Barbara Walsh speaks about her latest books

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com



Barbara Walsh. Courtesy photo.

When Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Barbara Walsh decided to make the move from newspapers to books, she wanted to tell more personal stories than the ones she wrote in the New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts and Florida dailies she worked for. In both *Sammy in the Sky* (published August 2011) and *August Gale* (published October 2011), she shares stories of her own family and ancestors.

She'll venture from her Maine home to Manchester, Nashua and Salem this week to talk about the literal and emotional journey she went on while writing the two books.

The longer and more research-driven of the two, *August Gale: A Father and Daughter's Journey into the Storm*, consists of two stories. One covers the tale of a deadly Newfoundland hurricane that took the lives of hundreds of fishermen in 1935, a storm in which 42 children lost their fathers, Walsh said. The other is a historical account of her grandfather's abandonment of her father.

She got the idea to write a storm-related novel when she saw the movie *The Perfect Storm*. There was something about the water, about her Irish heritage, that drew her into the idea of writing a book on the subject.

"You have a story like that in your family," her father had told her when she shared the idea. The pages unfolded, and it all came out: the story of the August Gale hurricane that killed several of her ancestors in 1935. He never talked about his past, Walsh said; it unleashed painful memories of her grandfather, Ambrose, and how he left his family. But it was he who suggested that they try to get in touch with his family in Newfoundland.

"The research part was easy. I interviewed over 200 people for this book. Many of them were in their 80s or 90s, whose parents had died in the storm. The toughest part was to write this so that it would read like a novel," she said.

But what she was most worried about, before the book was published last fall, was how her work would be received by her father. She needn't have; he became the book's biggest advocate, handing out bookmarks and fliers when he was in the hospital for a hernia last year.

"He's my biggest fan. He's handed out thousands of bookmarks for me all over," Walsh said in an interview. "It's so funny that I worried for nine years about what he'd think of it. I think it helped my dad to

Barbara Walsh

She'll be at **Manchester Barnes & Noble** (1741 S. Willow St., Manchester) on Friday, Dec. 7, 3-6 p.m.

Then she'll venture to the **Nashua Barnes & Noble** (235 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua) on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2-5 p.m.

And then Walsh will venture to the **Salem Barnes & Noble** (125 S. Broadway Route 28, Salem) on Sunday, Dec. 9, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

let go some of that bitterness, and it helped him understand his father more."

The other book she'll promote at Barnes & Noble this weekend, *Sammy in the Sky* was also a true story, told from the eyes of her daughters. The book tells the story of a young girl missing her hound dog after an illness cuts his life short. It was a story she felt the need to tell when her family's pet dog died.

"Often times, the pet is the first experience kids have with death," Walsh said. "The death of a dog or cat helps kids understand that we have to remember them with our heart."

Agents originally said that it was much too sad for a children's book, but she wouldn't give up on the idea.

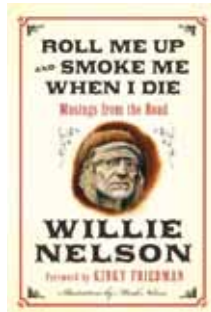
She enlisted the help of artist Jamie Wyeth, who is also from Maine. Walsh says that you can see his love for dogs in the illustrations that help tell the story. "There's so much emotion on every page, whether it's of the dog being happy or being sad. Every illustration evokes an emotion," she said.

She's got some more ideas in the works. "I'm looking to do more nonfiction. Because of my journalism background, I prefer to tell real stories. I like bringing them back to life," she said.

"Research is fun. It's fun, getting these oral histories, and I feel privileged to hear them. I always tell people, even if you're not writing a book, interview and listen to your parents, grandparents. When these people die, their stories go with them," she said.

POP CULTURE BOOKS

Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die: Musings from the Road, by Willie Nelson (William Morrow, 169 pages)



It's got plenty of competition on the radio dial this month, but Willie Nelson's "Pretty Paper" might be the worst Christmas song ever. "On the Road Again" it's not.

Also of dubious value is the legendary country singer's latest memoir, which should make your holiday shopping list for only the most ardent Nelson fans — and even then, only if they're not discriminating readers.

Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die is subtitled "musings from the road," and on that count, at least it's honest. These are musings, nothing more: incomplete, incoherent and often incoherent, padded to book length with photographs, song lyrics and tired, bawdy jokes.

Had anyone other than a world-renowned entertainer written this book, the manuscript wouldn't have made it past the receptionist at a publishing house. It's a book produced only because the author is famous, and sometimes that's OK ... let's not begrudge publishers and bookstores some easy money in light of the industry's late upheaval. There's room in the market for the occasional gimme, a book that is not particularly good, so long as it's not actively horrid.

But the problem with this book is, no one on the publishing ladder was brave enough to tell the great Willie Nelson "no."

No, you can't write this for a "Thought for the Day": "Sometimes I think, Well... then again, I don't know, but when you get right down to it, there it is."

No, you can't end paragraphs with "Amen."

No, your son may not illustrate this book.

No, you may not conclude this book by saying you know it's the end because "I

have written too many words," when, in fact, you've written about 12 sentences that are fresh and original.

But no one wants to challenge a superstar and send him, indignant, in search of another publisher, and so there is this book, beautifully produced and designed — pretty paper, but ugly writ.

Here is an interesting story you will learn in reading this book: Nelson wrote the song "Crazy," made famous by the late Patsy Cline. He played a tape of it for Cline's husband, who was so excited that he insisted the two of them go to Cline's home past midnight and wake her up so she could hear it. Nelson cowered in the car while Cline listened, but she loved it, came out and asked him inside. She recorded the song the next week, and it became, according to Nelson, "the biggest jukebox song of all time."

That was interesting, yes. And you'll learn something about how to play dominoes. But that's about it. Biographies, even when poorly written, are compelling because they open a window in a famous person's life, and so the nuggets of life history that Nelson conveys about his childhood and early career are tolerable. (He was raised during the Depression by grandparents who studied mail-order music by lamplight every night after dinner.)

But it's asking too much of the reader to suffer through testimonies of love from his wife, kids and grandkids. Even worse is the political commentary and theological musings, which include this gem: "We were made in His image, duh. Why don't we know it and act like it?"

The latter commentary on God was selected for one of the pull-out quotes on the book jacket, normally reserved for the funniest or most compelling passages in the book. That this is the best the publisher can do is a warning to the discriminating reader: Put this book down, and back away slowly. If you must have Willie Nelson at Christmas, buy his music instead. **D**

— Jennifer Graham

BOOK & LECTURE LISTINGS

Libraries

- **Amherst Town Library**
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us
- **Bedford Public Library**
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford 472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us
- **Concord Public Library**
45 Green St., 225-8670, www.concordpubliclibrary.net
- **Derry Public Library**
64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us
- **Goffstown Public Library**
2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us

- **Hollis Social Library**
2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us
- **Hooksett Public Library**
1701B Hooksett Rd, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org
- **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St. (main branch) and 76 N. Main St. (West branch), 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us
- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org
- **Nashua Public Library**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org

- **Rodgers Memorial Library**
194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org
- **Tucker Free Library**
31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org
- **Wadleigh Memorial Library**
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us
- **Wilton Public Library**
7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-2581, wiltonlibrarynh.org

Bookstores

- **Barnes & Noble**
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245 Maple St., Manchester, 669-9636, dmcomics.com

• **Gibson's Bookstore**

27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com

• **MainStreet Bookends**

16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com

• **River Run Books**

Portsmouth, 431-2100, river-runbookstore.com

• **Toadstool Bookshop**

586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com.

Other

• **Manchester Historic Association**

200 Bedford St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org

• **New Hampshire Humanities Council**

117 Pleasant St., Concord, 224-4071, www.nhhc.org

• **New Hampshire State Library**

20 Park St., Concord, www.nh.gov/nhsl

• **New Hampshire Writers' Project**

SNHU, 2521 N. River Rd., Manchester, 314-7980, nhwritersproject.org

• **Rivier College**

420 Main St., Nashua, 888-1311, rivier.edu.

• **UNH Manchester**

400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, unhm.unh.edu

• **World Affairs Council of NH**
SNHU, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 314-7970, wacnh.org

Author events

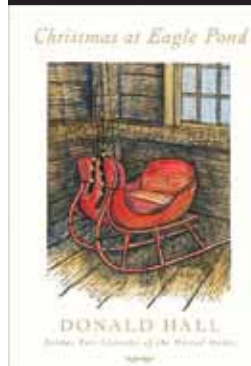
• **REBECCA RULE** will promote *The Iciest, Diciest, Scariest Sled Ride Ever!* on Sat., Dec. 8, 1-3 p.m., at The Christmas Dove, 11 Christmas Lane, Barrington, 664-7712; and Sat., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., with a visit with Santa, at The Bookmonger, Town Square, Waterville Valley, 236-4544.

• **FRITZ WETHERBEE** will sign copies of his latest book, *Fritz Wetherbee's New Hampshire Milestone*, at Water Street Bookstore (125 Water St., Exeter, 778-9731) on Sat., Dec. 8, at 2 p.m., and at Milford's Toadstool Bookshop (614 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734) on Sat., Dec. 15, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

• **DEEPAK CHOPRA** will discuss his latest work, *SUPER BRAIN: Unleashing the Explosive Power of Your Mind to Maximize Health, Happiness and Spiritual Well-Being*, co-authored by Harvard Medical School Professor Rudolph E. Tanzi, at the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) on Thurs., Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$13. Visit themusichall.org.

• **DONALD HALL** will talk about his new book, *Christmas at Eagle Pond*, on Thurs., Dec. 6,

DONALD HALL



Former Poet Laureate of the United States and New Hampshire icon Donald Hall will be at Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St., Concord) on Thursday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. Hall will be discussing his newest book, *Christmas at Eagle Pond*. The event is being presented by Gibson's Bookstore (gibsons-bookstore.com), and admission is free. Call Red River Theatres at 224-4697 or visit redriver-theatres.org to reserve a seat.

at 6 p.m., at Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St., Concord). Tickets are \$6 from Red River Theatres or free with each purchase of *Christmas at Eagle Pond* from Gibson's Bookstore. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **JEANNE BLACKMORE** will promote her new children's book, *How Does Sleep Come*, at a PJ Party at Water Street Bookstore (125 Water St., Exeter, waterstreetbooks.com, 778-9731) on Sun., Dec. 9, at 2 p.m., where kids can listen to her stories and stay busy with craft and snacks.

• **LISE FRIEDMAN AND MARY DOWDLE** sign and talk about their book, *Becoming a Ballerina*, at Barnes & Noble (1741 S. Willow St., Manchester) on Fri., Dec. 14, at 4 p.m. Visit lisefriedman.com, marydowdle.com.

• **JEN BUTENAS** promotes her book, *A Moment in Time*, at Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter, waterstreetbooks.com, on Sat., Dec. 15, at 11 a.m.

• **LISA FRIEDMAN AND MARY DOWDLE** will sign and talk about *Becoming a Ballerina: A Nutcracker Story* at Barnes and Noble (235 DW Highway, Nashua, 888-0533) on Sat., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m.

• **SEBASTION LOCKWOOD AND NANETTE PERROTTE** present *A Child's Christmas in Wales* and Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory* on Wed., Dec. 19, at 7 p.m., at Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough. Admission \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$5 for members. Free for children. Call 924-4555.

• **MICHAEL PALMER** talks about *Political Suicide* on Fri., Jan. 11, at 7 p.m., at Gibson's Bookstore (27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **JARED DIAMOND** will talk about his latest work, *The World Until Yesterday*, at the Music Hall Loft (Portsmouth, 766-2192) on Thurs., Jan. 17, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$13.

• **CHARLOTTE COX** talks about the final project of her

late husband, Larry Cox, *Close Encounters of the Common Loon*, on Thursday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m., at Gibson's Bookstore, (27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **KATRINA KENISON** author event at on Wed., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m., about her new book, *Magical Journey: An Apprenticeship in Contentment*.

• **CHRIS CASKO** presents his debut novel, *The Elimination Plan*, on Thurs., Feb. 7, at 7 p.m., at Gibson's Bookstore, (27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **BRUCE HEALD** presents *Gypsies of the White Mountains: History of Nomadic Culture* on Thurs., Feb. 21, at 7 p.m., at Gibson's Bookstore, (27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **CORY DOCTOROW** will visit Gibson's Bookstore, (27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Sun., Feb. 24, at 3 p.m., to talk about *Little Brother: Homeland*.

Lectures and discussions

• **DAVID POOK** will present "Christmas Chestnuts: A History of Holiday Hit Tunes" on Thurs., Dec. 6, at Concord Community Music School Recital Hall, 23 Wall St., Concord, 12:10-12:50 p.m. Free. Call 228-1196 or visit ccmusicschool.org.

• **STEPHEN KING** speaks at the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell (300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lowell, Mass.) on Fri., Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. General admission tickets available for \$30. Visit tsongascenter.com or call 866-722-8780.

Book discussions

• **THE BOOK CELLAR** in Nashua hosts a book club that meets on the first Wed. of each month, new members always welcome. The Book Cellar is at 34 Northwest Blvd., Nashua, in the Westside Plaza, 881-5570, www.bookcellaronline.com.

• **BOOKS IN THE MILL: A YEAR OF BOOKER READS**



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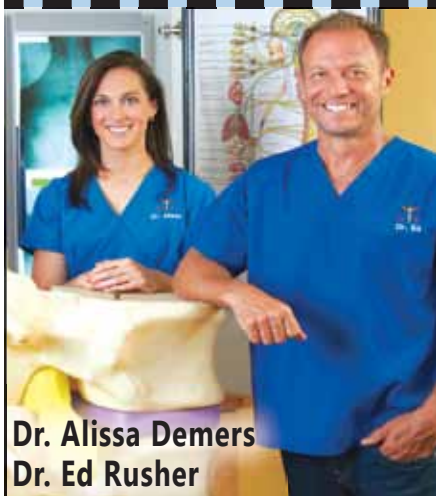
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POP CULTURE BOOKS

is a book discussion series that meets certain Thursdays in the UNH Manchester Library 6:30-8 p.m. manchester.unh.edu/events.

• **CLASSICS CROWD** at Milford Toadstool Bookshop reads 19th-century British classics and meets every other month to discuss books voted on by consensus. New members always welcome.

• **KELLEY LIBRARY** in Salem is hosting a four-month Civil War book discussion group. Discussion on Thurs., Dec. 13, at noon, about *March* by Geraldine Brooks.

• **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY** Brown Bag Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Hunt Room. Bring a bag lunch. Tues., Dec. 18, discussing *Left for Dead: a Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis* by Peter Nelson.

• **SALEM SCIENCE FICTION BOOK GROUP** meets at Kelley Library in Salem. New members are welcome, and copies of the book can be borrowed at the library. Wed., Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m. the group will discuss *The Princess of Mars* by Edgar Rice Burroughs.

• **SOCRATES CAFE** meets on the first Wed. of each month 7-8:30 p.m. at Toadstool Bookshop in Milford, hosted by Rick Branch. New members and curious thinkers are always welcome.

• **WARNER AREA BOOK CLUB** meets on certain Sundays at MainStreet BookEnds in Warner. All are welcome; call Jen at 456-3021 or email Jennkane@tds.net to sign up. 16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreet-bookends.com.

Poetry

• **POETRY SOCIETY OF NH** meets on the third Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore for a poetry reading followed by an open mike hosted by Don Kimball. All are welcome; come to listen or to read.

• **HYLA BROOK POETS WORKSHOPS** meet on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Coffee Factory in Derry. For info, contact Robert Crawford at bobik9@aol.com.

• **SLAM FREE OR DIE** at Milly's Tavern, 500 Commercial St., Manchester, 858-3286, includes a poetry open-mike session. Doors open and signups start at 7 p.m., open mike begins around 8 p.m., with featured poets and slams following the open mike. \$3 cover charge. Email Slam-FreerDie@gmail.com or call 858-3286.

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Book Report



• **Fritz!** Author and television personality Fritz Wetherbee will be making appearances at Water Street Bookstore (125 Water St., Exeter) on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m., and at Milford's Toadstool Bookshop (614 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734) on Saturday, Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. He'll tell stories, answer questions and

sign his latest book, *Fritz Wetherbee's New Hampshire Milestone*. "I do historic stuff and funny stuff and personal stories. The only limits I have are that the stories are never to get old. We should be able to repeat any story in 10 years and, aside from the car I am driving, no one should know it's an old piece," he said in a press release.

• **Fighting the Fifth:** Vermont native Robert Grandchamp recently wrote a biography about Edward Ephraim Cross in *Fighting the Fifth*. Cross worked as a political reporter, travel writer, editor, trail hand, silver mine supervisor and Indian fighter, and in the summer of 1861, he became colonel of Fighting the Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers. He gained fame as a "fearless battlefield commander" during action in Fair Oaks, Antietam, Fredricksburg and Chancellorsville, before he was mortally wounded at Gettysburg, according to the book description, but this new book portrays a full portrait of the little-known figure.

• **Another New Hampshire historical novel:** Seacoast area writer Terri DeMitchell's latest novel, *The Portsmouth Alarm: 1774* comes out this January. The Young Adult novel, based on true events in New Hampshire and Massachusetts during the lead-up to the American Revolution, follows three 13-year-old friends. The reader sees three points of view found in colonies before the war: rebels, loyalists, and those just trying to get along. DeMitchell intended that this book be suitable for individual or classroom reading, to prompt independent thought in young readers. Visit terridemitchell.com.

• **What keeps you going?:** Manchester local Joe Smiga offers the nuggets of wisdom he learned during his lifetime in *What Keeps You Going?*, sharing a number of poignant moments and challenges and creating a narratives that promotes how it's possible to keep going, despite difficulties. Visit joesmiga.com.

• **Exeter native writes new book:** Exeter native Lauren Chuslo-Shur's newest book, *The Golden Friendship*, is a colorfully illustrated story about the golden rule: treat others as you would like to be treated, followed through the friendship of a red-eyed tree frog named Chili and a muriqui monkey named Tugatu. The book, which takes place in the Brazilian Rain Forest, comprises bright, whimsical illustrations, made with combinations of tissue papers cut, shaped and scanned into the computer. It's for children ages 3 to 8 years old. Read more about the book at kensingtonartandcards or email lchshur@comcast.net. — Kelly Sennott

Wed. 7:30-10 p.m. at Raxx Billiards, 1211 Elm St., Manchester, ages 18+.

• **OPEN-MIKE POETRY NIGHT** is held monthly at Water Street Bookstore in Exeter, free and open to the public.



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POP CULTURE

Not Hollywood east, but...

Production coalition looks to get N.H. on the film map

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

The 2013 film *Labor Day*, which will star Kate Winslet and Josh Brolin, was a New Hampshire story written by a New Hampshire writer. But the film was ultimately shot in Massachusetts, because the state offers financial incentives to production companies that base projects in the Bay State. Yes, filmmakers shot one scene at Canobie Lake Park, but it was a couple hours' worth of shooting, said Timothy Egan, president of the New Hampshire Production Coalition's board of directors.

All but four states in the country offer financial incentives to entice film producers. The New Hampshire Production Coalition is hoping to make New Hampshire number 47.

The Coalition, which promotes creative industry in the Granite State, was finalizing proposed legislation last week that would institute incentives in New Hampshire in hopes of luring the entertainment industry to the Granite State, Egan said.

"Something that maybe just puts us into the mix," Egan said. "That we don't have [incentives] at all, what it says to the industry is that we don't care about you. We're not going to be asking to give away the house. And we can't give away money we don't have ... But we can at least have some type of an incentive to get companies to come here."

Manchester native Adam Sandler, during the filming of *Grownups 2* in Marblehead, Mass., recreated the Red Arrow Diner on the film set to have a New Hampshire tie-in, said Kathleen Longsdorff, a member of the New Hampshire Production Coalition's board of directors.

"It's too bad they couldn't have brought the project here," Longsdorff said.

Longsdorff, who owns New England Models Group in Manchester, said she has helped supply talent for 25 feature film projects in Massachusetts in the past three or four years. She said she sends all of her talent to Massachusetts, because that's where film production teams are choosing to shoot films, thanks to the Bay State's financial incentives.

Longsdorff said production companies are simply looking for states with the best tax credits to help lower their bottom lines, she said.

"When they do come in, they are bringing in millions [of dollars]," Longsdorff said.

Even in a relatively small film project, production teams need flights, meals, cars and lodging. It all adds up, Longsdorff said.



Actors Josh Brolin and Kate Winslet took part in shooting for the film *Labor Day* at Canobie Lake Park earlier this year. Courtesy photo.

The bill would include incentives for companies to grow and produce products here, with some type of a discount, either on the Business Enterprise Tax or the Business Profits Tax, depending on what type of production companies are creating, Egan said. The Coalition was expecting to have submitted legislation by Thursday, Dec. 6.

Egan said economic development officials know production companies spend a considerable amount of money locally. They rely on local hotels, local eateries and local talent, Egan said. Additionally, production companies can significantly impact the state's economy without having to develop land. That's why Egan calls it the "greenest" industry.

"When we begin to create scenic locations for movie sets, we see subtle tourism tools," Egan said. "They understand that they're creating more opportunities for [the Department of Resources and Economic Development] to promote tourism sites. These are things the state needs to drive revenue, from a tourism point of view."

Film production is just one piece of the coalition's approach. It's also about engaging the broadcast community, colleges and universities and the business community. Egan said he sees the production coalition as sort of the media arm of the DRED.

"We're trying to see the big picture," Egan said.

The coalition is also working to build momentum in the artistic community that includes costume specialists, set designers, sound specialists and actors, as well as on the business side that includes ad agencies, production houses and independent film producers.

"Everybody has an interest in seeing more business come to the state," Longsdorff said.

The coalition has a membership of about 40 to 50 individuals and organizations. Egan said he would like to see membership continue to grow. 🍷

POP CULTURE FILM REVIEWS BY AMY DIAZ

Killing Them Softly (R)
Robbers stick up gangsters at an illegal poker game in *Killing Them Softly*, a cautionary tale about why not to do such a thing.

Idiots Frankie (Scoot McNairy) and Russell (Ben Mendelsohn) are convinced by Johnny (Vincent Curatola) that though a poker game is mob-protected, it is easy pickings for two enterprising young men who'd like to rob something. You see, he explains, game organizer Markie Trattman (Ray Liotta) is rumored to have robbed one of his own games before, and if it happens again, people will assume he did it. Thusly, the guys can steal from these dangerous men but get away clean. Of course, that plan doesn't work out at all. The big cheese gangsters call Jackie (Brad Pitt), an all-purpose enforcer, heads in to town to find and rub out everybody involved in the robbery, even Markie, even if he seems to be innocent. (You can't have people thinking that robbing the mob is something they'll get away with — a point that needs making even if it involves harming the “innocent.”) Jackie thinks he'll need some help with the job since he and Markie know each other, so he calls in Mickey (James Gandalfini), a fellow hitman. Except the professional Jackie once knew is now a drunk mess who spends his time with a string of ladies of the evening (and, as it were, ladies of the mid-afternoon).

Throughout the movie, we hear clips of speeches from Obama, Bush and others on the financial crisis. You see, it's fall 2008 and while robbers have stolen from the criminals in our little story, the world is consumed with the collapsing house of cards that



Killing Them Softly

was the shifty investments based on an inflated housing market. Do You See The Parallels, the movie screams at you?

Killing Them Softly feels like the senior project written for a class on Tarantino Studies taught by Professor Oliver Stone. I've seen this movie praised for its zippy dialogue. I suppose if mannered, showily mafia-inflected monologuing is considered electric, then, sure, *Killing Them Softly* is one spicy meatball. But it is so heavy-handed, so on the nose (cold-blooded punisher Brad Pitt is introduced with Johnny Cash's “Man Comes Around”) that it's like the movie is daring you to create some kind of eye-roll-gets-a-shot drinking game. (Three minutes of Ray Liotta and you'll need a taxi to get home.)

I'll give the movie this: Richard Jenkins, character actor extraordinaire, turns in a performance that I think best captures what this movie wanted to be. He is a representative — a lawyer, I think — for a group of mobsters who run the poker games and want the robbers caught. He is the guy ordering Jackie to find and hurt or kill the perpetrators of the robbery. But he's also a weary middle-manager dealing with a contractor

and complaining about his bosses and the discussions made by committee the way a regional manager might gripe to a vendor about his disorganized corporate bosses. It is not a particularly subtle juxtaposition of violence and corporate structure, but it is smart and funny and it works.

Unlike the rest of the movie. **C- Rated R for violence, sexual references, pervasive language and some drug use. Screenplay by and directed by Andrew Dominik, Killing Them Softly is an hour and 37 minutes long and distributed by The Weinstein Company.**

Anna Karenina (R)
A married woman finds herself entangled in a passionate affair in *Anna Karenina*, a big gauzy adaptation of that book you didn't read in school.

Hey, Cliffs Notes had all the salient points.

Anna Karenina (Keira Knightley) is married to the older, serious Alexei Karenin (Jude Law), with whom she has one son. Though she dotes on the boy and has never left him (he appears to be, oh, 10-ish), she decides to travel from St. Petersburg to Moscow to visit her brother Oblonsky (Matthew

Macfayden). He is currently in the middle of some marital troubles with wife Dolly (Kelly Macdonald), who found out about his affair with the governess. Dolly can't seem to forgive Oblonsky, and Anna arrives to help smooth things over.

Meanwhile, Kitty (Alicia Vikander), a princess (princesses are always underfoot in this movie) and a friend of Dolly's, is all aglow with the expectation that she will soon be engaged to the wealthy and handsome Count Vronsky (Aaron Taylor-Johnson). As it happens, Anna met Vronsky at the train station as she arrived in Moscow — she sat near his mother, Countess Vronsky (Olivia Williams), and struck up a conversation with her. When Anna and Vronsky meet again at the ball where Kitty expects him to propose, more sparks fly between the mismatched pair. Vronsky dances with Anna, causing a scandal and devastating Kitty, who had just turned down the proposal of Konstantin Levin (Domhall Gleeson), a nice guy whose country estate and doofy appearance made him seem deeply unromantic next to the dishy Vronsky.

Anna returns to St. Petersburg enchanted by Vronsky but determined to rebuff his interest in her, even though she's not particularly delighted with her husband and even though her new social circle, which includes Vronsky's cousin, Princess Betsy (Ruth Wilson), seems to sort of encourage their romance. Of course, if Anna were successful about turning Vronsky down, we wouldn't be discussing a two-hour movie. So, naturally, we go from society types (including a princess played by Michelle Dockery — hey, there, Lady Mary Crawley) talking about what a moral upstanding girl Anna is to scenes of Anna and

Vronsky rolling around on a sun-dappled picnic blanket.

Every adaptation of a piece of literature needs a thing — modern setting! or realism! or Michael Fassbender! The “thing” in *Anna Karenina* is the set design, which puts many of the scenes of the story on a literal stage — with wings, rafters, etc. We get ornate backdrops that take us from this mansion to that one and set pieces that are slid into place by extras who change from being office workers to cafe servers. The effect made me think of an elaborate production of *The Nutcracker* — which is I suspect what they were going for. The first ball where Anna (dressed in black tulle) takes Vronsky away from Kitty (dressed in white tulle) was a neat visual riff on *Swan Lake*. In the first shot of Anna, she is being dressed by a maid while reading a letter in a sequence that — graceful arms move here and float there — also seems to play with the idea of a ballet. In other scenes, extras' movements are synchronized, and I know I spotted at least one pair of ballet shoes.

Sure, it's gimmicky, but it brought something to this jumble of princesses, peasants harvesting wheat and overheated romance that made it more than just a corseted chick flick. Or, at least, made it a corseted chick flick with some nifty visuals.

The conceit also works, I think, because the story of *Anna Karenina* is kind of ridiculous. It is soap operatic but with big Themes that introduce themselves — Happiness Vs. Duty — in ways so clunky it makes you feel like you've stepped into a high school English lesson on symbolism. Somehow, adding this kind of theatrical fairy tale quality makes, for example, the hysteria of Anna's character feel right within the context of what we're watching.

REVIEWLETS

* indicates a movie worth seeing. For reviews of graded films, go to www.hippopress.com.

***Argo (R)**
Ben Affleck, John Goodman. Tense, fun, fast-paced and exceptionally well done, this spy caper is based on the true story of the Iranian take-over of the American embassy in Tehran. **A**

Cloud Atlas (R)
Tom Hanks, Halle Berry. From the Wachowskis: connections between people continue throughout time, across many lives. Or, put another way, Tom Hanks and Halle Berry get to wear costumes from the past, the future and the '70s. **C**

Flight (R)
Denzel Washington, Bruce Greenwood. Denzel plays a pilot who Capt. Sullys a plane but then has to deal with the fallout of the post-crash sobriety test. **B-**

Life of Pi (PG)
Surjai Sharma, Irrfan Khan. Based on the Yann Martel novel,

a teenage boy finds himself adrift in the ocean with a Bengal tiger. The big buzz here is the use of 3D in a serious film. **C+**

***Lincoln (PG-13)**
Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field. One of the most important men in American history makes a film about Lincoln (little Steven Spielberg joke to welcome you

to Oscar season!). **B**

***Pitch Perfect (PG-13)**
Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson. A cappella nerds get their own version of the “dance movie” with this delightful tale of a college a cappella team that looking for redemption and a music geek looking for a reason to get engaged in college life. The riff-

off alone is worth the price of admission. **A**

P (PG-13)
Gerard Butler, Jessica Biel. Yep, they're still trying to make the Gerard Butler rom-com happen. Here, he plays an ex-pro soccer player trying to reconnect with his son. Opens Friday, Dec. 7.

POP CULTURE

That the performances are ultimately, you know, fine but not particularly memorable (except for Macfayden as Oblonsky, who seems to be having a ball and gets all the best lines) is actually OK. *Anna Karenina* is OK — which considering how dusty the source material could feel like a victory. **B**

Rated R, probably so that high school students will have a harder time seeing the movie instead of reading the book but also because of violence (by which, I assume, they mean The Thing which fore-shadows The Other Thing) and for some sexuality. Directed by Joe Wright with a screenplay by Tom Stoppard (from the novel by Leo Tolstoy), Anna Karenina is two hours and nine minutes long and distributed by Focus Features.

Silver Linings Playbook (R)
A man returns to his family and his troubles after several months in a state mental hospital in Silver Linings Playbook, a surprisingly engaging and well-acted movie.

Pat (Bradley Cooper) has been in a state institution for eight months — we later learn as part of a plea bargain after he beat up the man he found in the shower with his wife. The hospitalization was meant to help him get control of his bipo-

lar disorder, which was diagnosed only after the assault. But when his mother, Dolores (Jacki Weaver), comes to take him out, we can tell he's probably not ready. Who is more wrong-headed: Pat for thinking he can get his job as a school teacher and his wife back or Dolores for thinking that her son should be at home?

Perhaps she has some practice at dealing with a prickly, not-always-clear-headed man. Her husband (and Pat's father), Pat Sr. (Robert De Niro), was laid off and now is a bookie who seems to harbor more than just the usual amount of football fan superstitions. (The remote controls need to be just so to help the Eagles do well.)

Pat returns home, reluctantly goes to therapy and starts exercising, but he does not seem OK. When invited to his friend Ronny's (John Ortiz) house for dinner, he is a jittery mess. But somehow, his jittery mess seems to mesh well with the jittery mess that is Tiffany (Jennifer Lawrence), Ronny's wife Veronica's (Julia Stiles) sister.

Dealing, sort of, with the death of her police officer husband, Tiffany perhaps leans a little too often on men and has her own history with mental health issues. She does have a grounding hobby, though: ballroom dance. She wants to

compete in an upcoming ballroom dance event and needs a partner. Meanwhile, Pat wants to get a letter to his wife (who has a restraining order out against Pat but who Veronica still hangs out with). Perhaps, she says, we can help each other.

There's almost nothing I could tell you about *Silver Linings Playbook* that, on paper, is going to make this movie sound like something you'd want to see. Mental illness? Family turmoil? Amateur ballroom dance? "Silver Linings Playbook," whatever that means? Sign me up!, you aren't shouting. I dragged myself to this movie knowing it was part of my job but honestly wanting nothing to do with it, even after I'd heard the good reviews. Let me demonstrate: Bradley Cooper turns in a solid performance as a man struggling to hold on to his mental stability. Did you just think "gaah, no" when you read that? I would have. But it works; Cooper is good. Despite his career of playing a guy whose stupid face you'd sometimes like to punch, he shows some serious chops here, getting the kind of shaky intensity of his character perfectly.

How about this: Jennifer Lawrence shows herself to be a powerful young actress, one just as good at playing fragile as she's been at playing strong in movies like *Winter's Bone* and *The Hunger*

Games. I know, you're thinking "nope, not interested in that," but you are; it's worth it. She's proves that she doesn't need accents or dystopian death matches — she can turn in a good performance in just-plain-folks everyday messed-up person roles.

Silver Linings Playbook is the hole-in-the-wall restaurant that you will never go to by yourself. Someone has to take you, show you what to order, prove to you the food won't get you sick. So let me be the person reassuring you that the enchilada plate is safe: *Silver Linings Playbook* is a grown-up movie that is worth your time. It is not going to be for everybody — there are bummer aspects to this story, and if that's not what you want this isn't for you. But it is smart, it is emotionally genuine, and it is full of quietly delightful performances that will be talked about as some of the best this year. Look past the grim description and the meaningless title and order up a plate of this David O. Russell special. **A-**

Rated R for language and some sexual content/nudity. Screenplay by and directed by David O. Russell (from a novel by Matthew Quick), Silver Linings Playbook is two hours and two minutes long and distributed by The Weinstein Company.

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RED RIVER THEATRES
11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-
4600, www.redrivertheatres.org
• **The Perks of Being a Wall-
flower** (PG-13, 2012) Thurs.,
Dec. 6, at 2:05 and 7:45 p.m.
• **Yogawoman** (NR, 2011)
Thurs., Dec. 6, at 2 & 7:30 p.m.
• **Anna Karenina** (R, 2012)
Thurs., Dec. 6, at 2 & 8 p.m.
• **Independent Lens** Red River
Theatres partnered with New
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to present a free monthly series
of screenings and discussions
featuring films from the PBS
series Independent Lens. The
screenings will take place on one
Tuesday per month at 6:30 p.m.
through June 2013: Dec. 11, Jan.
8, and beyond.
• **Sapphire** (NR, 1959) Sunday
Afternoon British Thriller series,
Sun., Dec. 9, at 4 p.m., with tea
and a biscuit.
• **Beauty is Embarrassing**
(2012) documentary, Tues., Dec.
11, at 6:30 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL
40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456,
wiltontownhalltheatre.com
• **Lincoln** (R, 2012) Thurs., Dec.
6, through Tuesday, Dec. 25, at
7:30 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees
on Sundays.
• **Anna Karenina** (R, 2012)
Thurs., Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.

**FRANCO-AMERICAN
CENTRE**
Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint
Anselm Drive, Manchester,
www.facnh.com.
• Cinema Mardi, on the third
Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Film in French with English
subtitles.

**WEST BRANCH
COMMUNITY LIBRARY**
76 N. Main St., Manchester,
624-6560, www.manchester.lib.
nh.us.
• **Men in Black 3** (PG-13, 2012)
Fri., Dec. 7, at 3 p.m.
• **ParaNorman** (PG, 2012) Fri.,
Dec. 14, at 3 p.m.

**SOUTHERN NEW
HAMPSHIRE
UNIVERSITY**
Robert Frost Hall, 2500 River
Road, Hooksett, www.snhu.edu
• **Gloria** (PG, 1980) Wed., Dec.
12, at 7 p.m.

NHTI
Sweeney Auditorium, 31 Col-
lege Drive, Concord, 230-4000,
ext. 4101, www.nhti.edu. Friday
night films are open to the pub-
lic. Admission is free with a \$5
suggested donation.
• **Di Renjie - Detective Dee and
the Mystery of the Phantom
Flame** (PG-13, 2011) in Manda-
rin with English subtitles, Fri.,
Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.

**NASHUA PUBLIC
LIBRARY**
NPL Theater, 2 Court St.,
Nashua, 589-4600, www.nash-
ualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for
the library film line and a sched-
ule of upcoming movies. Seat-
ing is limited. Food and drink
are not permitted in the theater.
Cinema Cabaret screens adult
films on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and
the family film series screens on
Saturdays at 2 p.m. The two film
series run from October to May.
• **Hope Springs** (PG-13, 2012)
Tues., Dec. 11, at 7 p.m.

**HOLLIS SOCIAL
LIBRARY**
2 Monument Square, Hollis,
465-7721, www.hollislibrary.org.
Features a family movie night
the first Friday of every month at
5:15 p.m. Bring a potluck dish.
• **Brave** (PG, 2012) Fri., Dec. 7,
at 5:15 p.m.

KELLEY LIBRARY
234 Main St., Salem, 898- 7064,
www.kelleylibrary.org, features a
movie night the first Thursday of
the month at 6:30 p.m.
• **A Christmas Carol** (PG, 1984)
Thurs., Dec. 6, at 6:30 p.m.

**POLLARD MEMORIAL
LIBRARY**
401 Merrimack St., Lowell,
Mass., 978-970-4120, www.
pollardml.org, film night on the
second Thursday of each month
from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Films are
not rated.
• **Foreign Letters** (2012) Eng-
lish, Hebrew and Vietnamese
with subtitles, Thurs., Dec. 13,
at 6 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL
28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth,
436-2400, www.themusichall.
org. Some of these films are
being screened at Music Hall

Loft, 131 Congress St.
• **Hello I Must be Going** (R,
2012) Thurs., Dec. 6, at 7 p.m.
• **Chasing Ice** (PG-13, 2012)
documentary, Fri., Dec. 7, &
Sat., Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.
• **Yogawoman** (NR, 2011) Sun.,
Dec. 9, at 2 & 7 p.m.; and Tues.,
Dec. 11, & Wed., Dec. 12, at 7
p.m.
• **The Loneliest Planet** (NR,
2011) Fri., Dec. 14, Sat., Dec.
15, and Tues., Dec. 18, through
Sat., Dec. 22, at 7 p.m.
• **The Intouchables** (R, 2011)
Sun., Dec. 23, Wed., Dec. 26,
through Sun., Dec. 30, and Tues.,
Jan. 1, through Thurs., Jan. 3, at
7 p.m.; with a 3 p.m. screening
on Sat., Dec. 29.

**GRACE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**
106 Lowell St., Manchester, 622-
9813, gracechurchmanchester.org
• **Love Free or Die** (2012)
documentary about Bishop Gene
Robinson, Episcopal Bishop of
New Hampshire, on Wed., Dec.
12, at 6:30 p.m.

**NEWBURYPORT SCREEN-
ING ROOM**
82 State St., Newburyport,
Mass., 978-462-3456, www.new-
buryportmovies.com
• **Searching for Sugarman** (PG-13,
2012) Thurs., Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.
• **Smashed** (R, 2012) Fri., Dec.
7, at 6:45 & 8:45 p.m.; Sat., Dec.
8, at 4:45, 6:45 & 8:45 p.m.;
Sun., Dec. 9, at 5:30 & 7:30
p.m.; and Mon., Dec. 10, through
Thurs., Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.

OTHER
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Nite Roundup

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Art for art's sake:** Harmony-rich Americana trio The Ballroom Thieves perform a benefit show. Admission is a donation to the Manchester Animal Shelter. A wish list is posted at manchesteranimalshelter.org/donate, containing items like large and small biscuits, leather leashes and Kongs. The latter is apparently the coolest chew toy around. See Ballroom Thieves Thursday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. at French Building Auditorium, New Hampshire Institute of Art, 148 Concord St. in Manchester. See ballroomthieves.com.

• **Comic winner:** Tom Cotter finished as runner-up in this season's *America's Got Talent*, the highest ranking ever by a comic. Cotter compared judge Howard Stern to a child of Joey Ramone and Big Bird, if the latter "had Tourette's Syndrome and a slightly larger beak." Stern said in the final round that Cotter's act always left him wanting more at the end. See Tom Cotter on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. at SportsZone, 7 A St. in Derry. Tickets are \$31. See nhsportszone.com.

• **Santa dance:** The debut of Casual 6, featuring members of a few area bands, provides the music at a benefit dance for families in need. Lead singer Lori Gilcreast, mother of two, was spurred to pursue the muse after her sister lost a battle with breast cancer. Attend the annual Santa Fund Benefit on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 8 p.m. at Martha's Exchange, 185 Main St. in Nashua. Tickets are \$15; call 508-1044 or email beatkeeper@aol.com.

• **Toy time:** When not in a Manchester rehearsal space working on an EP of original tunes, Darrah plays covers by active rockers like Bush and Kings of Leon, with an old-school Ramones song or two for spice. The young quartet performs a benefit Whips for Wishes and the Nashua Children's Home. See Darrah on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 8:30 p.m. at the Polish American Club, 15 School St. in Nashua. The show is 21 and up; admission is an age-appropriate gift or cash donation. See darrahband.net.

• **Down the coast:** NH Jazz Presents, a company that books mini-tours in Laconia, Concord and Nashua, adds Portsmouth's Press Room to its list of venues. Gary Smulyan is a Grammy winner who's worked with B.B. King, Chick Corea, Ray Charles and other big names. One critic called him a "baritone saxophonist who plays like Bird." See Gary Smulyan with Ray Drummond on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m. at The Press Room, 77 Daniel St. in Portsmouth. Cover charge is \$10. See garysmulyan.com.

NITE

A showcase, not a showdown

Granite State Comedy Fest is fast-paced, good-natured fun

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Variety is the watchword at the Granite State Comedy Festival, to be held Dec. 7 and 8 in Portsmouth. Each night features a headliner and a staggering undercard of a dozen comics.

Geographically, they hail from all over the country. Tax planner by day, comic by night, Tim Messenger works the Denver comedy scene, while former Bostonian Christine Crocker now lives in Texas. Evan Bowen spent the past two years in Tacoma before returning to Massachusetts.

The lineup is multigenerational as well. John Baglio competed in last year's Boston Comedy festival before he was old enough to drink, while Michele Mortensen is a fiftysomething who riffs on her former life as a corporate wife.

Not quite middle aged Pat Oates gets plenty of laughs talking about dating a girl in her 20s. Agustin Reyes offers something for everyone — he's 24 years old, born in Argentina, raised in Uruguay and half Jewish.

The inaugural event is the brainchild of comic Doug Blay, who wanted to showcase the wide range of talent in the region. "We were looking for a diverse group ... delivering something a little bit different," he said by phone recently. "The people that we picked are very good at the kind of comedy that they do."

The festival evolved out of Sketchy People, a Seacoast improv group that Blay was a

member of, and will be held in the West End Studio Theatre, the troupe's headquarters.

The headliners — Mike Koutrobis on Friday, Rob Steen on Saturday — perform an extended set each night, but for the supporting comics it's rapid-fire five to seven minutes each. However, Blay said, it's not a showdown. "One of the things I did not want it to be is a contest ... I wanted them to come and do their best stuff without being judged for it."

Granted, there are more than a few competition winners on the bill. Jesse Bickford was recently named Maine's best comic; Pat Janssen was crowned Best New England Bar Comic last summer at Penuche's in Concord. Blay won the title last year, but he's hosting, not performing. "I will be introducing," he said. "I am looking forward to just enjoying these people."

Mortensen hated corporate parties because she couldn't balance cocktail napkins, appetizers and a wine glass simultaneously, "and I thought Pinot Grigio was a Mexican wrestler."

Boston's Christa Weiss hits winningly at singleton life with lines like this: "Dating a musician is like eating sugary cereal every day of your life. It looks fun, tastes good but will eventually rot your teeth and sell your television for dope."

The 24 comics were winnowed from more than 60 submissions. "Three of us watched the video clips [and] scored them independently on presence, material and how funny we thought they were,"



Rob Steen headlines the Saturday night show. Courtesy photo.

Granite State Comedy Festival

When: Friday, Dec. 7, and Saturday, Dec. 8, at 8 p.m.

Where: West End Theatre, 959 Islington St. in Portsmouth

Tickets: \$15 Friday, \$17.50 Saturday at granitestatecomedyfest.brownpapertickets.com

Lineup: Friday, Dec. 7

Mike Koutrobis headlines, with Sarah Martin, Christa Weiss, Jesse Bickford, Evan Bowen, James Creelman, Pat Janssen, Brett Johnson, Shaun Connolly, Kyron Hobdy, John Baglio, Jeff Landry and Josh Ramirez.

Saturday, Dec. 8

Rob Steen headlines, with Andrea Henry, Michele Mortensen, Christine Crocker, Erin Cyr, Will Noonan, Pat Oates, Justin P. Drew, Agustin Reyes, Tim Messenger, Andrew Mayer, Ethan Marsh and Matt Kona.

said Blay. "It was fun, and it's amazing how many people I don't know. It was also tough, because we had to cut a lot of people that we didn't want to."

A few things changed from the festival's conception to its creation. The initial plan for a mix of sketch and standup was scrapped. Blay also envi-

sions a true Granite State event — more comics, more venues. "What I would like to see is shows in both Manchester and Portsmouth," he said. "That just didn't work out this year with the time. Hopefully, next year we will have more of New Hampshire in it and more word of mouth to get it out there." 🍷

Nitelifest Listings

Music, comedy & parties

• **SANTA FUND BENEFIT AND DANCE** at Martha's Exchange (185 Main St., Nashua) Fri., Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. The event features live band The Casual 6. Tickets are \$15 and benefit local families in need. Call 508-1044 or email beatkeeper101@aol.com.

• **DURHAM CHRISTMAS CONCERT** at the Universalist Fellowship (20 Madbury Road, Durham) Sat., Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. Susie Burke, David Surette and Kent Allyn will perform.

Call 397-5781.

• **SINGLES DANCE** at The Castle-ton (92 Indian Rock Road, Windham) Sat., Dec. 8, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Business casual dance with door prizes and a cash bar. Hosted by Together of NH. Admission is \$12 before 9 p.m., \$15 after.

• **A SANTAMENTAL CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR** at Pitman's Freight Room (94 New Salem St., Laconia) Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. Christmas comedy, music and skits. Tickets are \$13.50 in advance and

are available at the Pointless Forest Facebook page. Otherwise, tickets are \$15. Visit www.pitmansfreightroom.com.

• **ROCKIN' GOSPEL HOLIDAY CONCERT** at Saint John's United Methodist Church (28 Cataract Ave., Dover) Sat., Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. Rock My Soul and The RMS Five will perform. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door.

• **JOHN STETSON PERFORMANCES** at Ocean Gaming Casino (81 Ocean Blvd., Hampton) Sun.,

Dec. 9, at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. Stetson is a mentalist who takes a humorous approach to his performance and involves audience members. Tickets are \$20 and another \$5 for an Italian buffet. Visit www.drinkwaterproductions.com

• **HOLIDAY BASH PARTY** at Studio 141 (141 Canal St., Nashua) Tues., Dec. 11, at 5 p.m. Hosted by the New Hampshire Creative Club. Live music, food and networking. Tickets \$25. RSVP by Friday, Dec. 7. Visit www.nhcreativeclub.org.



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NITE

Christmas classic

Charlie Brown jazz rings in the season

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

When *A Charlie Brown Christmas* first aired in 1965, its creators expected a one-off, not the second-longest-running holiday special in television history. The network complained about inexperienced child voice actors, poor sound and choppy animation. They wanted a laugh track in and the Gospel of Luke out. “We will, of course, air it next week, but I’m afraid we won’t be ordering any more,” CBS executives told them.

One element in particular irked them. “The music didn’t fit — who ever heard of a jazz score on an animated special?” wrote Charles Schulz biographer David Michaelis. But for many, Vince Guaraldi contributed the most memorable part of the show. And in no small way, Guaraldi’s bouncy piano music, led by the hit song “Linus and Lucy,” changed Heather Pierson’s life.

“It sparked my interest in jazz as a very young child,” Pierson said recently by telephone from her Conway home. “I have talked to other musicians who have felt the very same way ... the soundtrack is so catchy and memorable.”

So it makes sense that Pierson and her band will perform *A Charlie Brown Christmas* in a series of regional concerts, including one Dec. 13 at Pitman’s Freight Room in Laconia. It also begs the question: What took so long for a musician to do this?

Pierson did a well-received pair of shows in 2011 and decided to expand this year. Watching adults sway to tunes imprinted from childhood while their own kids reacted with pleasure to the

music, Pierson knew she had a winning formula. “What a great way to introduce jazz to another generation,” she said.

The Heather Pierson Quartet includes Pierson on piano and vocals, longtime partner Shawn Nadeau on bass; drummer Matty Bowman and sax player Joe Ali-perti. The horn is new this year. “We’ve been performing as a trio,” said Pierson. “Even though saxophone is not in the original, Joe brings a very colorful and soulful element to the group.”

The show leads off with the doleful, then swinging “O Tannenbaum” — also the first song on the soundtrack album. “It’s such a perfect way to start,” said Pierson. “It’s wonderful, gets everyone smiling and sets the tone for the whole evening.”

Pierson plans some non-Peanuts music for the program, including an inventive medley of “My Favorite Things” from *The Sound of Music*. “We’re trying to combine Julie Andrews and John Coltrane” — along with a staple from another enduring TV special: “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch.”

Born in Missouri, Pierson moved east at age 5. “I grew up in Maine; I’m a New England girl,” she said. She’s made six records; her latest, *The Open Road*, is a George Winston-styled musical travelogue. But Pierson has many sides. Her song “A Hard Man To Please” won the 2012 New England Songwriting Contest; she’s also working on a blues album.

Is it challenging to toggle between genres? “No, because I love it all,” she said. “Music to me is a language, and I try to speak in as many dialects as my abilities will allow me to do. So I don’t see much separation between the jazz I



Heather Pierson. Courtesy photo.

A Charlie Brown Christmas with the Heather Pierson Quartet

When: Thursday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m.

Where: Pitman’s Freight Room, 94 New Salem St., Laconia

Tickets: \$10 at the door; BYOB

See Heather Pierson perform “Lucy and Linus” and “O Tannenbaum” at last year’s show: <http://bit.ly/V8zbEg>

do and my songwriting. I started writing songs when I was in high school [and] when I started taking music theory for all my classical piano lessons and applying it to improvisational rock and mostly blues and jazz and just started exploring.”

Being multifaceted allows Pierson to play a lot of different gigs. More importantly, she was able to give up her day job as a children’s librarian and devote her life to music. “It’s been full time for two years now,” she said. “It’s been a wild ride, and I really love it.”

◀ 74 • CHRISTMAS GUITAR

CONCERT at the Unitarian Universalist Church (292 State St., Portsmouth), Fri., Dec. 14, and Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. Grammy winner Ed Gerhard will be playing in this 30th annual show. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$28 at the door. Call 664-7200 or visit www.virtuerecords.com.

• **HOLIDAY FOLK CONCERT** at Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Manchester) Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. David Surette, Susie Burke and Kent Allin will perform. Tickets are \$12 for students and seniors, \$15 for adults. Visit www.ccmusicschool.org.

• **A CAPPELLA BENEFIT CONCERT** at Verdant Pastures Auditorium (38 Ladds Lane, Epping) Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. A cappella acts Tuckermans at 9 and The Sugarbeats will perform. Tickets are \$20 and benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Com-

munity Assistance Center. Visit www.tuckermansat9.com.

• **RMS FIVE PERFORMANCE** at the Community Congregational Church of Greenland (Post Road, Greenland) Sun., Dec. 16, at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

• **THE BUZZ CHRISTMAS BALL** at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) Tues., Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. Greg and the Morning Buzz will host the show featuring a variety of live music, comedy and seasonal characters. Tickets \$30 to \$40. Call 668-5588 or visit www.palacetheatre.org.

• **HARVEY REID AND JOYCE ANDERSEN** will perform at the First Parish Church (218 Central Ave., Dover) Fri., Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. Reid plays acoustic guitar and autoharp and Andersen plays fiddle and sings. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the show. Call 207-363-1886. Visit www.seascoastguitar.org.

• **DUELING PIANOS NEW YEAR’S EVE PARTY** Boynton’s Taproom, 155 Dow St., Manchester, 623-7778, will host its second annual New Year’s Eve party featuring Dueling Pianos on Mon., Dec. 31, starting at 9 p.m. Tickets are general admission and include show, party favors, champagne toast at midnight, more. See www.boyntonstaproom.com.

Bowling

• **BOUTWELL’S BOWLING CENTER** 152 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941

• **BOWL IT CENTER** 244 Elm St., Milford, 554-1633, funbowling.com

• **LAKESIDE LANES** 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, lakesidelanes.com

• **LEDA LIGHTHOUSE** 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, ledalanes.com

• **KING BOWLING LANES** 751 Mast Road, Manchester, 623-9215, kingslanes.com

• **MERRIMACK TEN PIN CENTER** 698 DW Hwy., 429-0989

• **MILFORD LANES** 244 Elm St., Milford, 554-1633

• **SPARE TIME** 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, stadiumtenpin.net

Entertainment

• **SUNDAY NIGHT BALLROOM** dance parties are held weekly at Queen City Ballroom Dance Studio, 21 Dow St., Manchester, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$9; admission is free for first-timers. Singles and couples are welcome. Call 622-1500 or visit queencityballroomnh.com.

• **POETS JAM** will be held at The Jam Factory at Raxx Billiards, 1211 Elm St., Manchester, on Wednesdays, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. The jam is 18-plus.

NITE
‘Long strange trip’ revisited
 Grateful Dead, Allman Brothers tribute acts join forces



The Peacheaters will recreate some of the Allman Brothers Band’s set from the 1973 Summer Jam at Watkins Glen. Courtesy photo.

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

With Woodstock four years in the rear view mirror, it seemed unlikely that a concert of that magnitude could ever be topped. But when 600,000 people converged on the Watkins Glen International racetrack for what was to be a legendary performance headlined by The Grateful Dead, The Allman Brothers Band and The Band, it became the largest American rock concert ever.

To recreate the magic of that July 1973 festival, Allman Brothers tribute band The Peacheaters and Grateful Dead tribute act Playin’ Dead will share the stage at The Flying Monkey in Plymouth, Saturday, Dec. 8, for Watkins Glen Revisited.

Both bands are based in the Boston area and have played concerts together before. But much like when the Dead and the Allmans jammed together at Watkins Glen, this show will be the first time the two tribute acts join forces on stage. Alec Antobenedetto, the Peacheaters’ drummer, said recreating the 1973 Summer Jam was an obvious way for the two bands to collaborate since the Grateful Dead and Allman Brothers share so many fans.

“We thought it would be a great thing we could do if both bands could recreate it and play songs from that night,” Antobenedetto said. “What a trip for those fans.”

Along with the sheer size of the audience, the ‘73 Summer Jam is also legendary for how long the bands all played for. The Grateful Dead’s sound check turned into a full two-set performance, and the other two bands played for hours as well before all three bands encores together.

Because the tribute show has to be contained in one night, the bands will have to pare down the setlists, but both plan to hit the highlights of the original show. Jim Harris, who plays the Bob Weir rhythm guitar and vocals role in Playin’ Dead, said his

band’s sound generally leans closer to the Grateful Dead’s concerts of the 1980s and ‘90s, but they have been working toward targeting the way the Dead sounded in the early ‘70s for the Plymouth show.

“We’ll try to play the arrangements to some specific songs way the Grateful Dead played that set,” Harris said. “For example, the song ‘Here Comes Sunshine’ had a specific arrangement in 1973 as opposed to the 1990s.”

Though Antobenedetto said that even though a The Band tribute band won’t be there, the third Summer Jam band won’t be ignored. Because of the influence The Band had and to pay tribute to its drummer and lead singer Levon Helm, who passed away in April, Antobenedetto said it would be the right thing to do to tackle a couple of their tunes.

Harris said that even though Summer Jam happened nearly 40 years ago, the music that was played late into the night in central New York will always have a place in American culture and it has been a privilege to be able to keep it alive.

“It’s music that has longevity and it isn’t going to go away for a good reason,” Harris said. “It’s great music. It’s more than just a perpetual hangover that won’t go away.”

John Bennett, a guitarist and singer in The Peacheaters, said this style of music has always been about community and being inclusive of new fans.

“It’s cool to see young kids coming to see us,” Bennett said. “We’ve even had young kids sit in with us, and we totally want to see that continue on. We want to keep it going.”

Watkins Glen Revisited

Where: The Flying Monkey Movie House & Performance Center, 39 S. Main St., Plymouth

When: Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$18. Call 536-2551 or visit www.flyingmonkeynh.com.

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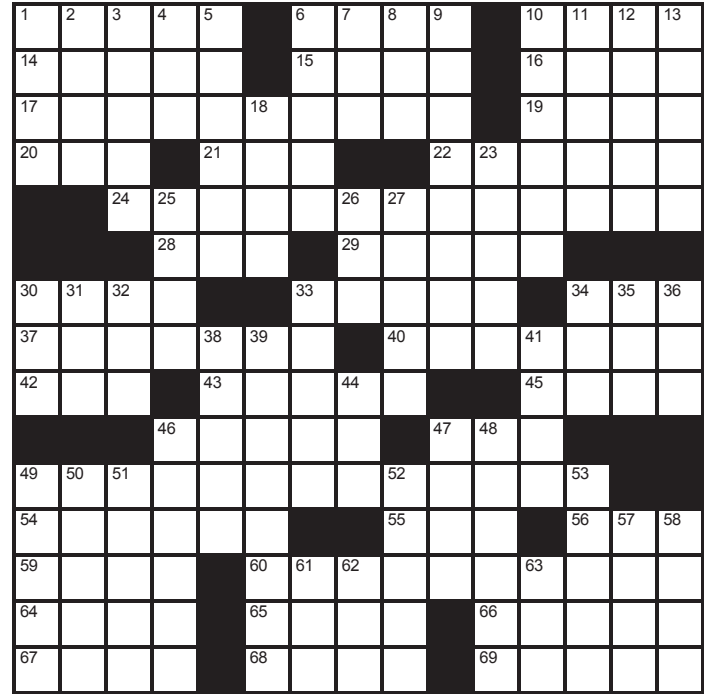
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- 1. Front yard stages?
- 6. Need waterproof system to rock while floating on one
- 10. Bassman might pop and this
- 14. Loverboy ‘The Kid ____ Tonight’ (2,3)
- 15. Warrant ‘____ Red’ (1,3)

- 16. Primus might tell one ‘From The Punchbowl’
- 17. Black Crowes classic ‘____ Angels’ (3,5,2)
- 19. Where Tom Petty wanted riots to stop (2,2)
- 20. Might get a spray-on one for shoot
- 21. ‘Human Racing’ Kershaw



- 22. Member of tribute band, perhaps
- 24. ‘I Bet You Look Good On The Dancefloor’ band (6,7)
- 28. Pro vote, for new member
- 29. Catchy parts of songs
- 30. Led Zeppelin ‘82 album
- 33. Masochistic Pat Benatar request? (3,2)
- 34. Randy Bachman post-Guess Who band (abbr)
- 37. Barenaked Ladies ‘____ Pirate Ship’ (4,2,1)
- 40. All I Have To Do ____ (2,5)
- 42. Once Bitten, Twice ____
- 43. Damned ‘____ This Earth’ (3,2)
- 45. ‘00 Vertical Horizon hit ‘You’re ____’ (1,3)
- 46. Chorus line
- 47. Last Year’s Model song for three?
- 49. Archers Of Loaf ‘White Trash Heroes’ opener (7,6)
- 54. Robyn ‘Criminal ____’
- 55. Pretenders ‘____ Stand By You’
- 56. Maiocco of Vixen
- 59. ‘Mr Pitiful’ Redding
- 60. ‘95 Van Morrison song for an atheist? (2,8)
- 64. Meshuggah album about all’s opposite?
- 65. Grateful Dead “Yes I get the gist ____ , but it’s alright” (2,2)
- 66. Michael Bolton ‘How ____ Be Lovers’ (3,2)
- 67. 60s ‘Puppy Love’ Paul
- 68. Alt country band The ____ Brothers
- 69. Exhausted from show

Down

- 1. Hall & Oates “Your kiss is on my ____”
- 2. Cornershop had a ‘Brimful Of’ it
- 3. ____ Child Is Born (4,1)
- 4. Black Kids ‘I’m ____ Gonna Teach Your Boyfriend How To Dance With You’
- 5. Guitar playing pose
- 6. Who Steely Dan gave a ‘Number’ to?
- 7. Blake Shelton ‘Kiss My Country ____’
- 8. Sum 41’s ‘Lip’, after a fight?
- 9. ‘91 Elton John & Bernie Taupin tribute (3,5)
- 10. What ‘Love does, to J Geils
- 11. Def Leppard producer “Mutt”
- 12. Joan Jett ‘Up Your ____’
- 13. What Peaches almost called herself?
- 18. ‘Dancing On The Edge’ Ford
- 23. Tattooed
- 25. Guster singer Miller
- 26. 70s ‘A Letter To Myself’ soul band ____ - Lites
- 27. Recurring theme
- 30. Company Sony acquired in ‘88
- 31. Faces ‘____ La La’
- 32. Peter Tosh ‘Til Your Well Runs ____’
- 33. You Can Leave Your ____ (3,2)
- 34. What The Temptations ‘Ain’t To Proud’ to do
- 35. Rick Springfield ‘The Power Of Love (The ____ Of Love)’
- 36. 80s ‘Sugar Tax’ synth-band
- 38. ‘Another ____ The Dark’ Wallflowers (3,2)
- 39. Hot Hot Heat ‘Make Up The Breakdown’ single (2,3,3)

- 41. Surprise attack by the cops
 - 44. Band that spawned ambient house genre, with “the”
 - 46. Indie rockers ____ And Cake (3,3)
 - 47. G Love ‘Kiss And ____’
 - 48. ‘71 Pink Floyd comp
 - 49. ‘Shadowboxer’ Apple
 - 50. David Letterman/Ace Frehley drummer Figg
 - 51. Smelly Arab Strap song?
 - 52. Johnny Lang ‘____ Me’ (3,2)
 - 53. Might get a chill down it, during show
 - 57. Shinedown “Show me flesh and bone, ‘cause now ____ you” (1,3)
 - 58. James “Can’t catch love with ____ or a gun” (1,3)
 - 61. Creeper Lagoon ‘Chance ____ Lifetime’ (2,1)
 - 62. ‘True To You’ Ocasek
 - 63. Gary Puckett And The Union ____
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11/29



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MUSIC THIS WEEK					
Allenstown Ground Zero 48 Allenstown Road	Candia Henderson’s Pickin’ Parlor 179 Raymond Road, 483-5001	Steve-N-James Tavern 187 Rockingham, 434-0600	Shooters Pub 10 Columbus Ave., 772-3856	Hillsborough American Legion Post 59 538 W. Main St.	Patio Garden Restaurant Lakeside Ave. Pitman’s Freight Room 94 New Salem St., 527-0043 Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave., 366-9100 Weirs Beach Lobster Pound 72 Endicott St., 366-2255 Weirs Beach Smokehouse Rt 3 Laconia, 366-2400
Amherst Club Comedy at Amherst Country Club 72 Ponemah Road, 673-9908	Concord The Barley House 132 N. Main St., 228-6363 Granite Restaurant & Bar 96 Pleasant St., 227-9000 Hermanos 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669 Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge 388 Loudon Road 226-0533 Makris 354 Sheep Davis Road, 225-7665 Penuche’s Ale House 6 Pleasant St., 228-9833 The Purple Pit Jazz Club 3 Pleasant St., Ext., 832-8876 The Red Blazer 72 Manchester St., 224-4101 True Brew Barista 3 Bicentennial Square, 225-2776	Dover American Legion Post 8 640 Central Ave. Barley Pub 328 Central Ave.,742-4226 Dover Elks Lodge 282 Durham Road Dover Bowl 887 Central Ave.,742-9632 Dover Brick House 2 Orchard St., 749-3838 11th Frame Bar 887B Central Ave., 742-9632 Fury’s Publick House 312 DW Hwy, 617-3633 Jimmy’s Sports Bar 15 Mechanic St., 740-4477 Kelley’s Row 421 Central Ave., 750-7081 The Loft at Strafford Farms 58 Route 108, 743-3045 RJ’s 83 Washington St. Roger’s Pizza 869 Central Ave., 742-9870 Top of the Chop One Orchard St., 740-0006	Franklin Artemis Event Center 20 Canal St., 934-2000	Hollis Alpine Grove 19 S. Depot Rd., 882-9051	City Sports Grille 216 Maple St., 625-9656 Club 313 93 S. Maple St., 628-6813 Club Realm 19 Amherst St., 935-7659 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road, 623-2880 Don Quijote 333 Valley St., 792-1110 Drynk 20 Old Granite St., 836-5251 Element Lounge 1055 Elm St., 627-2922 Farm Bar & Grille 1181 Elm St., 641-3276 Fratello’s 155 Dow St., 624-2022 Gaucht’s Churrascaria 62 Lowell St., 669-9460 Hanover St. Chophouse 149 Hanover St., 644-2467 Ignite Bar & Grille 100 Hanover St., 494-6225 Jam Factory 1211 Elm St., 203-1458 Jillian’s Billiard Club 50 Philippe Cote Drive, 626-7636 Jokers 1279 S. Willow St., 935-9947 Lafayette Club 387 Canal St., 623-9323 Lazy Nick’s Coffee House 362 Huse Road, 232-7187 Luigi’s Pizza Bar & Grille 712 Valley St., 622-1021 Mad Bob’s Saloon 342 Lincoln St., 669-3049 McGarvey’s 1097 Elm St., 627-2721 Milly’s Tavern 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Murphy’s Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535 My Friend’s Bar and Grill 507 Maple St., 627-3444 NH Institute of Art 148 Concord St. Olympic Lounge 506 Valley St., 644-5559
Barnstead Barnstead Music Hall 96 Maple St., 269-2000	Bedford Bedford Village Inn (BVI) 2 Olde Bedford Way, 472-2001	Dunbarton Spireside Coffee House 6 Stark Highway North	Gilford Ellacoya Barn & Grille 2667 Lakeshore Rd, 293-8700 Gunstock Ski Area 719 Cherry Valley, 293-4341 Patrick’s 18 Weirs Road, 293-0841	Hooksett Asian Breeze 1328 Hooksett Road, 621-9298	Piccola’s Upstairs Lounge 815 Elm St. Raxx Lounge 1195 Elm St. Rocko’s Bar & Grill 253 Wilson St., 626-5866 Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St., 624-4020 Sam Adams Bar & Grill Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive., 641-2005 The Shaskeen 909 Elm St., 625-0246 Social 24 24 Depot St., 782-8489 Stage Door 96 Hanover St., 626-9830 Starbucks 1111 S. Willow St., 641-4839 Strange Brew Tavern 88 Market St., 666-4292 Theos 102 Elm St., 669-4678 Unwine’d 865 Second St., 625-9463 The Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St., 669-7722 Workmen’s Club 183 Douglas St. XO on Elm 827 Elm St., 206-5721 The Yard 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545
Belmont The Lodge at Belmont Route 106, 877-872-2501 Top of the Town 88 Ladd Hill Rd, 528-3244 El Jimador Mexican Restaurant 171 DW Highway, 527-8122	Davisville Muddy Pond Jazz Deal grounds of Davisville Flea Market, 805 Route 103 East (Exit 7 off I-89), 746-4000	Epsom Circle 9 Ranch Windymere Dr., 736-9656	Hampstead The Pasta Loft 220 E. Main St., 378-0092 Route 111 Village Square 472 State St., 329-6879	Kingston Bucco’s Tavern 143 Main St., 642-4999 The Kingston 1686 House Tavern 127 Main St., 642-3637	Manchester 900 Degrees 50 Dow St., 641-0900 American Legion Wm H Jutras & Post No 43 56 Boutwell St., 623-9467 American Legion Post #79 35 W. Brook St. American Legion Sweeney Post 251 Maple St., 623-9145 Blu 1087 Elm St., 669-5523 Boynnton’s Taproom 155 Dow St., 623-7778 Breezeway Pub 14 Pearl St., 621-9111 British Beer Company 1071 S. Willow St., 232-0677
Boscawen Alan’s 133 N. Main St., 753-6631	Deerfield Lazy Lion Café 4 North Road, 463-7374	Henniker Daniel’s Main Street, 428-7621 Pat’s Peak Sled Pub 24 Flanders Road, 888-728-7732 The Henniker Junction 24 Weare Road, 428-8511	Hampton Boardwalk Inn 139 Ocean Blvd., 929-7400 Breakers By the Sea 409 Ocean Blvd, 926-7702 La Bec Rouge 73 Ocean Blvd, 926-5050 Old Salt 409 Lafayette Road, 926-8322 Sea Shell Stage on Ocean Blvd. Ron’s Landing 379 Ocean Blvd, 929-2122, Wally’s Pub 144 Ashworth Ave., 926-6954 Whales Tales 169 Ocean Blvd, 967-4771	Laconia Anthony’s Pier Restaurant 263 Lakeside Ave., 366-5855 Baja Beach Club @ China Bistro 89 Lake St., 524-0008 Broken Spoke Saloon 1072 Watson Road, 366-5511 Cactus Jack’s 1182 Union Ave., 528-7800 The Crazy Gringo 306 Lakeside Ave., 366-4411 Fratello’s 799 Union Ave., 528-2022 Margate Resort 76 Lake St., 524-5210 Naswa Resort 1086 Weirs Blvd., 366-4341 Paradise Beach Club 322 Lakeside Ave., 366-2665	Mereditth Camp 300 DW Highway, 279-3003 Giuseppe’s Ristorante 312 DW Highway, 279-3313 Merrimack The Homestead 641 DW Hwy., 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway, 424-2280 Milford American Legion 15 Cottage St., 673-9804
Bow Chen Yang Li 520 South St. 228-8308	Derry Adams Opera House 29 W. Broadway Coffee Factory 55 Crystal Ave., 432-6006 Halligan Tavern 32 W. Broadway, 965-3490	Exeter First Friday Coffeehouse at FUUSE 12-14 Elm St., 772-4002	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230 Wa Toy 611 Mast Road, 668-1088	Hopkinton Beech Hill Farm 107 Beech Hill Road	Patio Garden Restaurant Lakeside Ave. Pitman’s Freight Room 94 New Salem St., 527-0043 Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave., 366-9100 Weirs Beach Lobster Pound 72 Endicott St., 366-2255 Weirs Beach Smokehouse Rt 3 Laconia, 366-2400
Bristol The Back Room at The Mill 2 Central St., 744-0405					

Thursday, Dec. 6	Whippersnappers: Royal Pains	Nashua Fody’s Tavern: Matt Jackson	Boscawen Alan’s: Jon Abrams	Exeter First Friday Coffee House at FUUSE: Coffee house and open mic Shooters Pub: DJ BiggZ and “D” Entertainment	Tower Hill Tavern: Charlie Keating
Concord Hermanos: Joe Gattuso True Brew Barista: Captain Chet Lawson	Manchester Blu: DJ Chad Fratello’s: Jazz Night Jokers: Corey Brackett Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike Shaskeen: Mellow Bravo Social 24: Cootz Strange Brew: Tammy Lynn and Miles High	New London Flying Goose: Tom Glynn feat. The Second Season	Concord Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge: Phoenix Makris: Deja VooDoo Purple Pit: Andrew Clark, Kid Pinky Red Blazer: Matt McKay True Brew Barista: Darlingside, Heather Maloney, The Milk-man’s Union		Londonderry Coach Stop: Karen Grenier Whippersnappers: Over 6
Dover Brick House: Martin England, Tom Schena Fury’s: Erin’s Guild		Newmarket Stone Church: Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad			Manchester Blu: DJ Flanz, DJ Triple J British Beer Company: Cover Story City Sports Grille: Switchback The Derryfield: Without Paris Fratello’s: Mark Apostolides Jokers: Tom Dixon Band Murphy’s Taproom: Coverslip Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike Shaskeen: Tan Vampires, Tristan Omand, Visions Visions Stage Door: Diamond Joe Strange Brew: Paws Up
Epping Holy Grail Food and Spirits: Dan Walker	Meredith Giuseppe’s: Jim Tyrrell	Portsmouth Press Room: Bob Halperin Rudi’s: John Franzosa & John Hunter		Gilford Patrick’s: Kieran McNally	
Laconia Pitman’s Freight Room: Brad Myrick Quintet Jazz	Merrimack The Homestead: Jen Oldham			Hampstead Route 111 Village Square: The Dirty Thirds	
Londonderry Coach Stop: MB Padfield	Milford J’s Tavern: Triana Wilson		Dover Brick House: Groovechild Fury’s: Four Sticks	Hampton Ron’s Landing: Michael Troy Wally’s Pub: Spiral Circus	
			Epping Holy Grail Food and Spirits: Julie Dougherty	Laconia Fratello’s: Paul Luff Margate Resort: Gary Smulyan	

Chapanga's
168 Elm St., 249-5214

Clark's Tavern
40 Nashua St., 769-3119

J's Tavern
63 Union Sq., 249-9222

The Pasta Loft
241 Union Sq., 672-2270

Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills
50 Emerson Road, 673-7123

Nashua
Arena Sportsbar & Nightclub
53 High St., 881-9060

Backstage Bar and Grill
56 Canal St., 598-8256

Boston Billiard Club
55 Northeastern Blvd., 595-2121

Country Tavern
452 Amherst St., 889-5871

Fat Daddy's Cafe
650 Amherst St.

Fody's Tavern
9 Clinton St., 577-9015

Haluwa Lounge
Nashua Mall, 883-6662

Junkyard
522 Amherst St., 882-6026

Killarney's Irish Pub
Holiday Inn, 888-1551

Lafayette Club
34 High St., 889-9860

Martha's Exchange
185 Main St., 883-8781

McKenzie's Restaurant and Bar
96 Main St., 577-1151

Michael Timothy's
212 Main St., 595-9334

Nashua Garden
121 Main St., 886-7363

Old Amsterdam Bar
8 Temple St., 204-5501

The Peddler's Daughter
48 Main St., 880-8686

Penuche's Ale House
4 Canal St., 595-9831

Pine Street Eatery
136 Pine St., 886-3501

The Polish American Club
15 School St., 889-9819

Simple Gifts Coffee House
58 Lowell St.

603 Lounge
14 W. Hollis St., 821-5260

Slade's Food & Spirits
4 W. Hollis St., 886-1334

Stella Blu
70 E. Pearl St., 578-5557

Studio 99
17 Factory St., 562-5179

Unums
47 E. Pearl St., 821-6500

Villa Banca
194 Main St., 598-0500

Wicked Twisted Bar & Grill
38 E. Hollis St., 577-1718, wickedtwistedbarandgrill.com

New Boston
Molly's Tavern
35 Mont Vernon Road, 487-2011

New London
Flying Goose Brew Pub & Grille
40 Andover Road, 526-6899

Newmarket
Lamprey River Tavern
110 Main St., 659-3696

KJ's Sports Bar
N. Main St., 659-2329

Stone Church
5 Granite St., 650-7700

Newton
Hen House Sports Bar & Grill
85 S. Main St., 382-1705

Pelham
Shooters
116 Bridge St., 635-3577

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub
3 School St., 924-6365

Peterborough Players Theater
Hadley Road

Plaistow
Corner Pocket
181 Plaistow Road., 382-3130

Dugout Grille
93 Main St., 819-4947

The Sad Cafe
148 Plaistow Road, 382-8893

Portsmouth
American Legion Post 6
96 Islington St.

Blue Mermaid Island
Grill hill at Hanover and High streets, 427-2583

Daniel Street Tavern
111 Daniel St.

Dolphin Striker
15 Bow St., 431-5222

Fat Belly's
2 Bow St., 610-4337

Gas Light Co.
64 Market St., 431-9122

The Hilton Garden Inn
100 High St., 431-1499

Jitto's Supersteak
3131 Lafayette Road, 436-9755

Martingale Wharf
99 Bow St., 431-0901

The Music Hall
104 Congress St., 433-3100

Paddy's American Grill
27 International Drive, 430-9450

Portsmouth Pearl
45 Pearl St., 431-0148

Press Room
77 Daniel St., 431-5186

The Red Door
107 State St., 373-6827

Red Hook Brewery
35 Corporate Drive, 430-8600

Ri Ra Irish Pub
22 Market Square, 319-1680

Rudi's
20 High St., 430-7834

Rusty Hammer
49 Pleasant St., 436-9289

Thirsty Moose Tap House
21 Congress St., 427-8645

The Wet Bar
172 Hanover St.

Raymond
Famous Legends Bar & Grill at Strikers East
4 Essex Drive

Freetown Yankee
Market 58 Route 27, 895-3418

Salem
Black Water Grill
43 Pelham Road, 328-9013

Jocelyn's Lounge
355 S. Broadway, 870-0045

Murray's Tavern
326 S. Broadway, 894-9100

Sayde's Restaurant
136 Cluff Crossing Road, 890-1032

The Varsity Club
67 Main St., 898-4344

Seabrook
American Legion Post 70
169 Walton Road

Chop Shop Pub
920 Lafayette Road, 474-6001

Honey Pot Bar & Lounge
920 Lafayette Road, 760-2013

Master McGrath's
Route 107, 474-6540

Prime Time Sports Grill
620 Lafayette Road, 760-7230

Sunapee
One Mile West Tavern
6 Brook Road, 863-7500

Sunapee Coffee House
Methodist Church, Route 11

Wilton
Pine Hill Auditorium
Pine Hill Waldorf School, 77 Pine Hill Drive

Windham
Jonathon's Lounge
Park Place Lanes, Route 28, 800-892-0568

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack
The Homestead: Sev

Milford
Clark's Tavern: Gary Lopez

J's Tavern: Just Us

Pasta Loft: Scooter Way Band

Nashua
Fody's Tavern: 5 O'Clock Shadow

Killarney's: Psychedelic Relics

Old Amsterdam: Kim Riley

Peddler's Daughter: Swinging Johnsons

Stella Blu: Joe McDonald

Newmarket
Stone Church: Dopapod

Portsmouth
Gas Light Co.: DJ Koko P, Dave Clark, Corey Brackett

Plaistow
Sad Cafe: Obsydian, The Groundlings, The Side Project

Portsmouth
Press Room: Racky Thomas Blues Band

Red Door: Lord Bass

Rudi's: Dmitri & The Wolfe

Thirsty Moose: The George Brown Band

Sunapee
Sunapee Coffee House: Kathy

Lowe & Friends

Saturday, Dec. 8
Allenstown
Ground Zero: Fortune 500 DJ Midas, DJ K Swiss, DJ SP1

Boscawen
Alan's: Doug Thompson

Concord
Hermanos: Phil Sargent

Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge: Mother Hubbard

Purple Pit: Zeke Martin Project

True Brew Barista: Garrett Cypher

Dover
Brick House: Groovechild

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Fury's: Far From Finished, Superska

Epsom
Circle 9 Ranch: Karen Morgan & Pony Express

Epping
Holy Grail Food and Spirits: Sirateau

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Common Knowledge

Hampstead
Route 111 Village Square: The Dirty Thirds

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Winger, MASS

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: George Belli & The Retroactivists

Laconia
Tower Hill Tavern: Blues Band

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Brian Gray
Stumble Inn: Tom Dixon Band
Whippersnappers: Tigerlily

Manchester
Blu: Last Kid Picked, DJ Dru
Boynnton's Taproom: Dueling Pianos
British Beer Company: Half-way Gone
City Sports Grille: The Voice
The Derryfield: Soundtrack to Monday
Fratello's: Brian Gray
Jam Factory: 11th Hour, The

NITE CONCERTS

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com



Head to the beach for psychobilly originator Reverend Horton Heat. Wally's Pub (144 Ashworth Ave., Hampton Beach) will host the Reverend on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Call 926-6954 or visit www.wallys-pubnh.com.

Defoliators, Black Market Lightbulbs
Jokers: Brandon Lepere
Milly's Tavern: Strange Machines, Nemes, Dressed for the Occasion
Murphy's Taproom: Without Paris
Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Nappy Roots, DJ PB Kidd
Strange Brew: 2120 S. Michigan Ave.
The Yard: Bobby Carlson and the Stones River Band

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Joel Cage, Mama Kicks

Merrimack
The Homestead: Charlie Christos
Jade Dragon: Flesh & Blood

Milford
J's Tavern: Napoleon in Rags
Pasta Loft: Ghost Dinner Band

Nashua
Fody's Tavern: Radio Star
Killarney's: Kieran McNally
Old Amsterdam: Edison
Peddler's Daughter: Jimmy's Down
Simple Gifts Coffee House: John Gorka, Scott Alarik
Stella Blu: Groove Cats
Studio 99: Gary Smulyan

Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org
Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., www.lowellsummermusic.org
Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin,

934-1901, themiddlenh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, the-musichall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Road, Francestown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436-2848
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittmore Center Arena, UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, www.whitt-center.com

• **Watkins Glen Revisited: Peacheaters, Playin' Dead** Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Dark Star Orchestra** Sat., Dec. 8, at 8 p.m., Lowell Auditorium
• **The Smithereens** Sat., Dec. 8, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Tom Rush** Sun., Dec. 9, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Martina McBride** Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m., Lowell Auditorium
• **Adam Ezra Group** Sat., Dec. 15, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Boston Pops Holiday Concert** Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m., Veri-

zon Wireless Arena
• **BJ Thomas** Sun., Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., Stockbridge Theatre
• **Dave Matthews Band, The Lumineers** Wed., Dec. 19, at 7 p.m., Verizon Wireless Arena
• **Bellevue Cadillac** Fri., Dec. 21, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

ADAM EZRA ON STAGE



The Boston-based Adam Ezra Group will be in the Granite State for a performance at the Tupelo Music Hall (2 Young Road, Londonderry). The band takes the stage Saturday, Dec. 15, with stringed instrument oriented band Darling-side opening at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Call 437-5100 or visit www.tupelohall.com.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Entrain

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub: Northern Stone

Plaistow
The Sad Cafe: The Resemblance Rock Band, Jessica Prouty Band, Blackwell, Risky Business Band, The Cranks, Chloe Kinnon

Portsmouth
Gas Light Co.: DJ Koko P, Keith Henderson, Pat Foley
Press Room: Dan Blakeslee, Larry Garland & Friends
Red Door: Datacet
Rudi's: Rob Gerry & Tim Ray
Thirsty Moose: All We Are

Salem
Jocelyn's Lounge: Marc Fleury

Seabrook
Honey Pot Bar & Lounge: Kick The Ladder, Afterglow

Sunday, Dec. 9
Concord
Hermanos: State Street Combo

Dover
Brick House: DJ Erich Kruger

Epsom
Circle 9 Ranch: NHCMA Jam-boree

Hampton
Ron's Landing: Michael Troy
Wally's Pub: Rob Benton

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: Don Severance

Plaistow
Sad Cafe: Amanda McCarthy, The Gentlemen and the Lion Heart, Jamian Figureroa

Portsmouth
Red Door: Green Lion Crew
Rudi's: Jim Dozet Trio

Monday, Dec. 10
Concord
Hermanos: State Street Combo

Manchester
Fratello's: Rob Wolfe

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack
The Homestead: Charlie Christos

Nashua
Studio 99: Ukulele Club

Portsmouth
Red Door: Cole and the Make Out Scene, Hello Shark, Guy Capecelatro III

Tuesday, Dec. 11
Concord
Barley House: Irish Traditional Session
Hermanos: Paul Donahue

Dover
Brick House: James McGarvey
Fury's: Tim Theriault and Friends

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: VJ Mark

Manchester
Fratello's: Kim Riley
Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Brett Wilson
Strange Brew: Strange Brew All-Stars

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack
The Homestead: MB Padfield

Tilton
Onions Pub: Lee Anne Ames

Wednesday, Dec. 12
Concord
Hermanos: Cormac McCarthy
True Brew Barista: Wildvine

Dover
Fury's: Shark Martin

Manchester
Fratello's: Tim Gurshin
Jokers: Corey Brackett
Strange Brew: Lex Romane

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Jill Ducsai

Merrimack
The Homestead: Brian Gray

Milford
J's Tavern: Lisa Guyer

Nashua
Old Amsterdam: Paint Social
Studio 99: Acoustic Jam

Portsmouth
Rudi's: Dmitri

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Friday, Dec. 7
Manchester
Boynton's Taproom: Eddie Brill, Dan Crohn, Lauren Verge
Headliners: Rob Steen

Friday, Dec. 7
-Sunday, Dec. 9
Portsmouth
West End Studio
Theatre: Granite State Comedy Festival

Saturday, Dec. 8
Manchester
Headliners: Frank Santos Jr.

Friday, Dec. 14
Londonderry
Tupelo Music Hall: Jim Colliton and Larry Myles

Manchester
Headliners: Ryan Gartley

Saturday, Dec. 15
Manchester
Headliners: Ryan Gartley

Friday, Dec. 21
Manchester
Headliners: Dave Rattigan

Saturday, Dec. 22
Manchester
Headliners: Dave Rattigan

Saturday, Dec. 29
Manchester
Headliners: Robbie Printz

Friday, Jan. 18
Concord
Cap Center: Capitol Steps

Colonial Theatre:
North Shore Comedy

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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *Bobby Flay's Bar Americain Cookbook*, by Bobby Flay, born Dec. 10, 1964.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *I often tell people that when I see a map of the United States, I don't see states, cities, and towns — I see ingredients. Look for ingredients wherever you go.*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *Vidalia onions are a super-sweet variety of onion grown in — and trademarked by! — the state of Georgia. Trademark your onion.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *The joy of a chopped salad is that there is no need to compose each forkful to make sure you have the perfect bite — every uniformly sized morsel is already tossed and mixed together for a whole plate full of perfect bites. You will enjoy a whole plate full of perfect bites.*

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *I don't recommend cheating with canned lentils. The texture and flavor of dried lentils cooked in a well-seasoned stock is far superior, and they cook up in no time. Put away the can opener.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *One final note: A key factor in making any grilled cheese is to be sure the bread is well toasted. Well toasted. Not under-toasted. Not over-toasted. If it's not perfectly golden brown, feed it to the birds and start over.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *Cabbage ... keeps its crunch factor long past the point when lettuce would have wilted. Keep your crunch factor.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *Sweet basil may seem an unexpected choice, but its flavor complements the citrus juice in the slaw's vinaigrette and offsets the assertive*

cilantro in the charred tomato salsa. Go for the unexpected choice.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *The peppery arugula and mustardy vinaigrette cut through the richness of the cheese and complement the salty ham. I serve this at lunch, but it would be wonderful at dinner as well. What matters most is how you combine different elements.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *Both venison and blackberries are farmed these days, but they were once procured in the wild, by early American hunters and foragers. I like to think that this dish is one that would have been at home — in essence if not preparation — on the table of pioneers first settling the woods of northern Wisconsin and Michigan. Have you considered blackberry farming?*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *Dipping French fries in mayonnaise is a European conceit. The French and Belgians wouldn't serve their pommes frites with anything else! If you haven't given it a try, you should — the combination of hot, crisp, salty fries and smooth, rich mayonnaise is dangerously addictive. Then again, when the words "dangerously addictive" are used to describe something, maybe you shouldn't try it after all. But when it comes to mayonnaise, it's a very personal decision.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *Asparagus has a distinctive flavor, and this vinaigrette walks a delicate line, standing up to that flavor without overwhelming it. Stand up, but do not overwhelm. Like asparagus, you are distinctive.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *Nothing says 'ta-da!' quite like a soufflé, making it a fitting finale for the most special of meals. Get ready to say 'ta-da!'*

NITE SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	4						9	
3				1				2
			7	6	2			
		1				2		
	6	8		9		4	3	
		9				8		
			1	2	4			
8				3				4
	7						5	

11/29

7	4	1	8	9	6	2	5	3
6	3	5	2	7	1	8	4	9
2	9	8	3	5	4	6	7	1
5	7	2	9	8	3	1	6	4
4	1	9	5	6	2	3	8	7
3	8	6	1	4	7	5	9	2
1	6	4	7	2	5	9	3	8
8	2	7	6	3	9	4	1	5
9	5	3	4	1	8	7	2	6

Difficulty Level ★★★

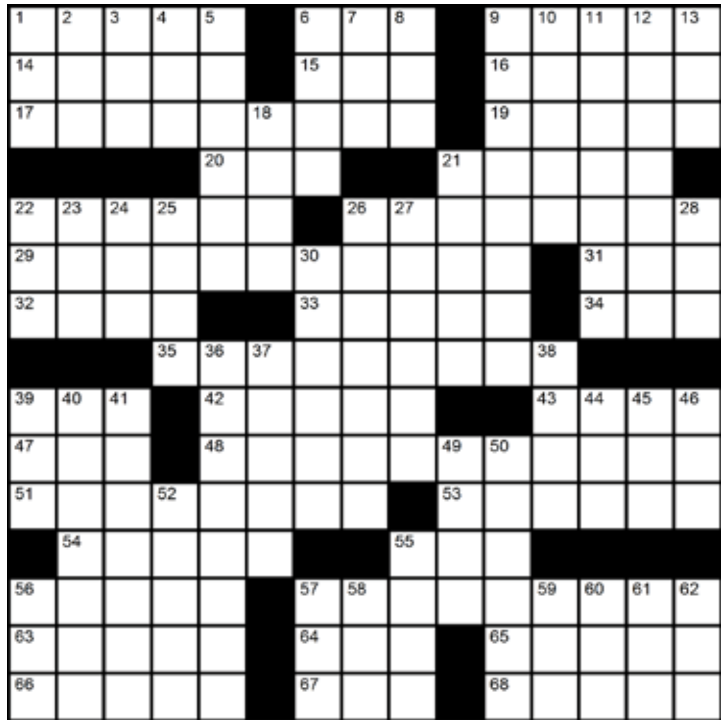
12/06

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“Cross Purposes” — you’ll be working at them.

Across

- 1 Looney Tunes voice Mel
- 6 Proof-ending abbr.
- 9 Petraeus who stepped down as CIA head
- 14 Mushrooms have a weird effect on him
- 15 “Burn Notice” network
- 16 Month before febrero
- 17 Advice like “Don’t fly so low you crash into the Death Star”?
- 19 Gainesville collegian
- 20 Drift into dreamland
- 21 Stars with a belt



- 22 Cub Scout leaders, in the U.K.
- 26 Like restaurants that serve sushi, pad thai, and 58-down
- 29 Do a medical scan on a British royal?
- 31 ___ Dinh Diem
- 32 ___ Deportes (Spanish-language channel)
- 33 Moves, in real estate jargon
- 34 Amethyst, for one
- 35 Elected official straight from a Fox singing competition?
- 39 Not the sharpest knife in the drawer
- 42 In ___ (mad)
- 43 A shot
- 47 ___ Mae Brown (Whoopi Goldberg’s “Ghost” role)
- 48 Resort town for video game enthusiasts?

11/29



- 51 Honorary flag position
- 53 Wine agent
- 54 Tinseltown, in headlines
- 55 Old-school laundry detergent
- 56 Word after wake or Ouija
- 57 Oinker who designed a commercial space shuttle?
- 63 Highway sign
- 64 Start of most John Grisham book titles
- 65 Olympic skater Slutskaya
- 66 “___ to recall...”
- 67 Animal pattern on Gateway computer boxes
- 68 Young accounting partner?

Down

- 1 Bike race with hills
- 2 Rule
- 3 The Diamondbacks, on scoreboards
- 4 See 10-down
- 5 Courvoisier or Remy Martin
- 6 Pound, in British slang
- 7 Unproven ability
- 8 “___ Kapital”
- 9 Junior high in a 1980s teen show
- 10 With 4-down, “Delta of Venus” author
- 11 Putting the kibosh on
- 12 Historic period for blacksmiths
- 13 Palme ___ (Cannes Film Festival prize)
- 18 “___0” (Comedy Central web-clip show)

- 21 ___ the other
- 22 Body spray brand with hot ads
- 23 ___-One (rapper who guested on R.E.M.’s “Radio Song”)
- 24 “The Raven” monogram
- 25 Bobcat cousin
- 26 False reason
- 27 Sanctions
- 28 ___ de guerre
- 30 Ursus ___ (brown bear)
- 36 Office machine
- 37 Equally awful
- 38 Alternative to ja
- 39 “I blew it,” to Homer
- 40 Big potatoes
- 41 Scary programs
- 44 Shaker founder Lee
- 45 F/X animation
- 46 QVC rival
- 49 Spittoon noise
- 50 Award for a bomb
- 52 Fake a signature
- 55 “Celebrity Rehab with Dr. ___”
- 56 Fat measure
- 57 “The Mayor of Simpleton” band
- 58 Saigon soup
- 59 Slip up
- 60 Wrestling victory
- 61 Border org.
- 62 Gangster’s sidearm

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Not sure who to send it to? You can also contact editor Amy Diaz at adiaz@hippopress.com or call 625-1855 ext. 29.

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Send letters to the editor to news@hippopress.com. Include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters will be edited for size and will appear in our occasional comments section.

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Panda graduation party

Yes, This Is Really How They Do It: The Wolong Panda Training Base in Sichuan, China, released a series of photos to China Daily in October to mark the graduation from captivity, and into the wild, of the 2-year-old Tao Tao. Sure enough, Tao Tao and his mother, Cao Cao, were shown frolicking in the woods, accompanied by trainers each dressed in full-length panda suits, including panda heads, as they appeared to demonstrate climbing trees and searching for food.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

• At the recently opened Soineya “cuddle cafe” in Tokyo, men buy hugging privileges (but no sex allowed!) with young women for from 20 minutes to 10 hours at prices (gratuity optional) ranging from the equivalents of \$40 to \$645, with surcharges for special services (e.g., foot massages, resting heads in each other’s laps).

• The Deluxe Comfort Girlfriend Body Pillow, which began as a boutique-only niche product, recently became available at Amazon.com and Sears.com at around \$25. The bolster-like, cuddling-enabled pillow is augmented with two strategically placed mounds and a snuggle-up arm hanging to the side. (There’s also an Original Soft and Comfy Boyfriend Pillow, without the mounds.)

• “You have wrinkles,” the inquiring customer was told, “and your left cheek is larger than your right,” explained “Tata,” the Bangkok-born woman who recently opened a salon in San Francisco to employ the supposedly traditional Thai art of face-slapping. Frown lines and droopy skin are curable with a 10-minute regimen of well-placed whacks across the cheek (and payment of the \$350 fee), Tata told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer in October. Masochists are warned that Tata deals in therapy, not punishment. “If you want someone to hit you, go on Craigslist.”

Cutting-Edge Science

• Among the “Ig Nobel” prizes awarded to earnest academics in September by the Annals of Improbable Research was the one to Patrick Warren and colleagues who delved into excruciatingly detailed predictions (at the behest of a cosmetics firm) about how someone might ultimately look with a ponytail, based on hair characteristics. The team took into account the stiffness of the strands, the effects of gravity and the random curliness or waviness in the hair in a set formula to compute a “Rapunzel Number” for each head. Explaining his particularized work to reporters, Dr. Warren acknowledged (perhaps with underestimation), “I’ve been working on this for a long time.”

• A research team at Lund University in Sweden, led by neuroethologist Jochen Smolka, concluded that one reason dung beetles dance in circles on top of dung is to cool off, according to an October report on LiveScience.com. To arrive at their conclusion, the team went to the trouble of painting tiny silicone “boots” on some beetles to protect them from the ambient heat experienced by a control group of beetles, and found that the booted beetles climbed atop the dung less frequently. Explained Smolka, “Like an air-conditioning unit, the moist (dung) is cooled by evaporati(on).”

Leading Economic Indicators

• While the U.S. recently nearly elected a multimillionaire as president, Uruguay’s chief executive, Jose Mujica, declared his personal wealth in 2010 as the equivalent of about \$1,800 and gives away 90 percent of his \$12,000 monthly presidential salary in order to remain true to his political roots with the leftist guerrilla group Tupamaros. He has rejected the government-provided mansion and instead lives with his wife at her family’s farmhouse, where he helps work the land, according to a November BBC News profile from Montevideo.

• Financial advisers charge the big bucks because of their sophisticated understanding of money and markets — or maybe because they know how the stars align. A September Marketplace radio program highlighted the newsletters of “financial astrologers” Karen Starich and former Merrill Lynch stock trader Arch Crawford (who left the trading floor because, apparently, astrology is more lucrative). About 300 traders pay \$237 a year to learn what

Starich knows about Neptune and Saturn, and Crawford’s 2,000 subscribers (at least a few of which prefer receiving copies in unmarked wrappers) learned that any new business venture goes south when Mercury is in retrograde.

• The Continuing Decline of American Manufacturing: A Drug Enforcement Administration agent told the Associated Press in October that factories in Mexico have recently been supplying American markets with especially potent and inexpensive methamphetamine. “These are sophisticated, high-tech (businesses) ... that are operating with extreme precision,” said agent Jim Shroba. The 90 percent-pure product offers “a faster, more intense and longer-lasting high.” Many Americans, meanwhile, continue to make small batches of inferior meth in 2-liter soda bottles.

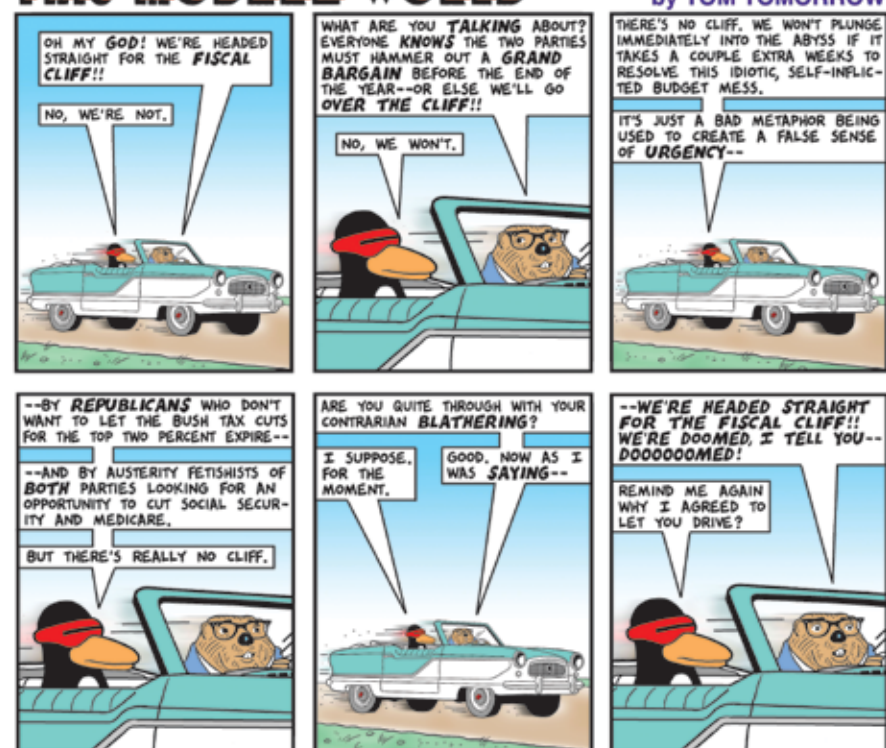
Perspective

In 2011 only 75 worldwide shark attacks on humans were reported, with only 12 fatal, yet researchers writing recently in the journal Conservation Biology found that about 60 percent of all media reporting about sharks emphasized just the serious dangers that human swimmers face. By contrast, only about 7 percent of the reports were focused on shark biology or ecology, though the sorry state of shark survival would seem more important, in that an estimated 26 million to 73 million sharks are killed annually from the harvesting of their fins.

Are you ready for News of the Weird Pro Edition? Every Monday at www.WeirdUniverse.net.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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NIGHT OF COMEDY

Jim Collition & Larry Myles



Fri., December 14
8:00 p.m. • \$18 • RS-Tables

ADAM EZRA GROUP



Sat., December 15
8:00 p.m. • \$15 • GA

BJ THOMAS

at the Stockbridge Theatre



Sun.,
December 16
7 p.m. • \$10-40



at Pinkerton Academy

BELLEVUE CADILLAC

Annual Christmas Show



Fri., December 21
8:00 p.m. • \$25 • RS-Tables

NELS CLINE & JULIAN LAGE



Sat., December 22
8:00 p.m. • \$25/\$30 • RS-Theater

JAMES MONTGOMERY BAND



Thurs.,
December 27
8:00 p.m.
\$25
GA

POPA CHUBBY



Fri.,
December 28
8:00 p.m.
\$25
GA

STEPHEN KELLOGG

Alone for the Holidays



Sat.,
December 29
8:00 p.m.
\$25
RS-Theater

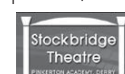
The Voice of Foreigner

LOU GRAMM

at the Stockbridge Theatre



Sat.,
December 29
7 p.m. • \$30-40



at Pinkerton Academy

NIGHT OF COMEDY

Harrison Stebbins, Sal Votano
& Ralphie Royal



Fri., January 4
8:00 p.m. • \$18 • RS-Tables

CHARLIE FARREN



Sat.,
January 5
8:00 p.m.
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RS-Tables

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